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14 July Middle East and South Asia Review

LD141300 [Editorial Report]

Israel

Soviet Delegation — There is no room to interpret the Soviet consular delegation's arrival as a step toward establishing diplomatic relations, Yevgeniy Antipov declared in remarks cited by the 14 July *Yedi'ot Aharonot*. In an interview with IDF radio, delegation leader Antipov, deputy head of the Consular Administration of the USSR Ministry of Foreign Affairs, stressed that the group has "two limited tasks" — to inventory Soviet real estate in Israel and to document Soviet citizens who reside in Israel. While the Soviet diplomat declined to engage in "speculation" on the delegation's "political tasks," he said that the delegation would accept any invitation to meet with high-level Israeli officials. Antipov estimated that he and his team may remain in Israel some 3 months. An Israeli consular official described the first meeting with the Soviet delegation as "warm and cordial," according to Jerusalem radio.

In a move seen as related to the Soviet delegation's visit, Moscow has stopped jamming Israel's Hebrew-language broadcasts to the USSR, Jerusalem radio announced.

No-Confidence Motions Rejected — The Knesset rejected five no-confidence motions from left-wing opposition parties, Jerusalem radio reported, noting that most Labor-Alignment members were not present for the vote. The opposition parties were trying to censure Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir for his stance in favor of an amnesty bill which the justice minister had previously rejected as unconstitutional.

Egyptian-Israeli Relations

Avraham Tamir, director general of the Israeli Foreign Ministry, was received by Usamah al-Baz, first under secretary of the Foreign Ministry and director of the President's Office for Political Affairs, for talks on promoting peace and preparing for an international conference, MENA reported, adding that the Israeli official departed Cairo for home after a visit of several hours.

Gulf War

Military Action — Iraqi warplanes carried out air strikes 14 July on "extremely important" Iranian oilfields in the Gulf and on Farsi Island, according to a communique broadcast by Voice of the Masses radio. The communique also announced that the Air Force delivered "devastating blows" to targets in the tanker holding area near Khark Island. For Iran's part, IRNA reported a communique announcing that Iraqi forces suffered "heavy" losses in men and materiel when artillery bombarded the Al-Bakr oil platform and coastal watch towers.

French Accusation — France "formally" accused Iran of attacking the container ship *Ville d'Anvers* sailing from Kuwait to Bahrain, Paris radio reported.

Iran

Relations With Syria — President 'Ali Khamene'i received Syrian Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar' who delivered a "special message" from Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad, IRNA reported. In briefing the Iranian president, Al-Shar' stressed that Syria's policies are "consistent with the strategic ties" between the two states. He reiterated Syria's line that all "progressive" states should pool their resources in combatting Zionism and imperialism. In remarks cited by the agency, Khamene'i accused "world arrogance" of attempting to obstruct Syrian-Iranian ties, which continue at the "best level," he noted. President Khamene'i also praised the Lebanese Muslim people and asserted the need for a "universal alliance" among Muslims.

Prior to leaving Tehran, Al-Shar' described his talks with Iranian officials as "positive and fruitful," SANA reported. He also pointed out that President Khamene'i's reply to the message from his Syrian counterpart is important to reducing tension in the Gulf.

Commenting on the outcome of the Al-Shar' visit, Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati told Tehran radio that Iran and Syria plan to expand bilateral relations in various areas. Velayati also announced that Prime Minister Mir Hoseyn Musavi will visit Damascus "as soon as possible."

Bahrain Briefing — The Iranian charge in Manama briefed Bahraini Foreign Minister Muhammad ibn Mubarak al-Khalifah on Iran's concern over maintaining security and stability in the Gulf region, IRNA reported, adding that the two sides stressed the need for more frequent consultations.

Italian Detainees Released — Two Italian engineers arrested in early May were released from custody, Rome radio reported.

Qaddumi-Led PLO Delegation To Visit Syria

PM131629 Cairo AL-WAFD in Arabic 11 Jul 87 pp 1, 11

[Unattributed report: "Success of Soviet Mediation Between Damascus and PLO and Failure of PLO Attempts at Reconciliation With Cairo and Amman"]

[Text] According to diplomatic sources in Cairo, a Palestinian delegation led by PLO Political Department Chief Faruq Qaddumi will soon travel to Damascus for talks with the Syrian leadership. This will be an attempt to bridge the gap between PLO and Syrian views and to draw up a joint strategy for the next stage of bilateral moves with regard to the Middle East peace process. The latter is particularly important following the elimination at the recent 18th PNC session in Algiers of differences between PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat and most Palestinian organizations.

In the wake of Qaddumi's visit to Moscow in June, the Soviet Union has recently acted as a mediator between Damascus and the PLO following the failed Cairo mission of 'Arafat's political adviser, Hani al-Hasan. It should be recalled that about 2 weeks ago, Hani al-Hasan met with Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid, Egyptian deputy prime minister and foreign minister, in an attempt to persuade the political leadership to reconsider its decision to close PLO offices in Cairo. Al-Hasan also held this meeting to reassure himself on Egypt's position toward the question of PLO participation in an international conference, if such a conference is held, in view of recent changes in the Egyptian and Jordanian stands.

The same sources say that during his visit to Amman last week, Hani al-Hasan sought to convince King Husayn of the importance of PLO-Jordanian joint action in the next phase due to the difficulty either of them would have in participating in negotiations on the Middle East problem without the other.

Meanwhile, the United States and Israel are presently seeking to exploit current differences between the PLO and Cairo and Amman by attempting to convince Cairo and Amman of the need to select non-PLO members to represent Palestinians in negotiations if an international peace conference is held before the end of this year.

Al-Surani Discusses PLO View of Egypt, Financing

PM130939 Cairo AL-AHRAR in Arabic 6 Jul 87 p 4

[Interview with PLO Executive Committee Member Jamal al-Surani by Ibrahim Yunus; place and date not given]

[Excerpts] [Passage omitted] [Yunus] Do you now support an international conference?

[Al-Surani] Yes. And we will accept any international conference that will accept us, the PLO, as the representative of the Palestinian people. We want to express our opinion with a view to finding a solution to the problem. [Passage omitted]

[Yunus] What is the PLO's present position toward Egypt after what happened at the recent PNC session and the closure of the PLO offices [in Egypt]?

[Al-Surani] Our position with Egypt is excellent. Egypt objectively supports the convening of an international conference, the right to self-determination, the establishment of a Palestinian state, and the PLO's representation of the Palestinian people. This constitutes the best political support for the Palestinian cause.

[Yunus] And President Mubarak?

[Al-Surani] President Mubarak is backing the Palestinian cause fully. This has always been his position, and he has declared it not only to the Egyptians but to the Americans and the Israelis as well. It is a principled position that will not be abandoned.

[Yunus] So what is the problem?

[Al-Surani] There was a misunderstanding and obscurity. However, this will not in any way affect the principled position which Mubarak is adopting toward the Palestinian cause and the Palestinian people and which was declared by Egyptian Foreign Minister Dr Ismat 'Abd al-Majid in Brioni, where he held a meeting with [head of PLO Political Department] Faruq Qaddumi, which was a positive meeting. In fact, [Egyptian minister of state for foreign affairs] Dr Butrus Ghali made a clear statement in reply to Shamir in which he declared that the Gaza Strip is Palestinian territory and part of the Palestinian homeland, that Shamir's statements contradict the spirit of the peace agreement, and that Israeli settlements in Gaza shall be removed just as those in Sinai were removed.

[Yunus] When do you think the [PLO] offices will be reopened?

[Al-Surani] This is not a problem to be discussed. One morning I shall find myself leaving home in Cairo for the PLO office.

The PLO Executive Committee has issued a statement in which it explained the role of Egypt, the Egyptian Army, the Egyptian president, and the Egyptian people. This was not flattery but fact, since Egypt has its own status, truly, both historically and geographically. Egypt is a beacon of civilization for the Arab and Islamic nations, as well as for Africa. [Passage omitted]

[Yunus] Where is Abu Nidal now?

[Al-Surani] I actually do not know. There are reports that Syria has expelled him, but I do not know to where.

[Yunus] Did he join the PLO after his efforts?

[Al-Surani] He did not.

[Yunus] How much is your budget, if this is not a secret?

[Al-Surani] It is not a secret. We stated the budget at the PNC session; it totals $197 million.

[Yunus] Where from?

[Al-Surani] This was decided by the Arab summit in Baghdad. However, only Saudi Arabia has been paying its share. Last year Baghdad paid $40 million, despite the war, and a further $30

million come from Palestinian contributions and the national fund.

[Yunus] Is it true that the PLO has $6 billion?

[Al-Surani] I wish we had, but from where? We have no oil, no customs duties, and we do not impose taxes. We also have no industry or agriculture.

Our entire budget is paid by the Arab states or the Palestinian people. Arms, medicine, and training grants or scholarships come from friendly states.

[Yunus] Where do the arms come from?

[Al-Surani] This is no secret: China and Korea.

[Yunus] Do you pay for these arms?

[Al-Surani] In fact China is the only country that does not charge us for arms or medicine.

UK Paper Interviews Al-Surani

PM140939 London AL-TADAMUN in Arabic 11 Jul 87 pp 20, 21

[Interview with PLO Executive Committee Member Jamal al-Surani by Rashid Khashanah in Tunis; date not given]

[Text] [Khashanah] The PNC has defined the PLO's moves regarding relations with the Arab states. Will there be anything new during the next stage?

[Al-Surani] We are working hard to establish Palestinian-Arab relations based on certain principles: first, Arab solidarity to confront Zionism and imperialism. Second, fixed Palestinian principles, foremost among which are the right to return; the right to self-determination; the right to establish an independent state on Palestinian soil under the leadership of the PLO, the sole representative of the Palestinian people; noninterference in PLO internal affairs; and respect for the independence of Palestinian decisionmaking. Therefore, we aim to establish good relations with all Arab states without exception, those we differ with and those we do not differ with, since we believe that what happened to our people could happen to other peoples if the situation is allowed to continue in its existing form. We want the Palestinian people's return [to the homeland], not the evacuation of another Arab people. To achieve this we must deal with the strategic defect aimed at eliminating the Palestinian cause and portraying the problem as an Arab-Israeli conflict. Since an agreement between Egypt and Israel has been secured, they [not further identified] also want to ensure that agreements between Syria and Israel, Lebanon and Israel, and Jordan and Israel are secured and that the Palestinian cause no longer exists.

The second aspect of this defect is Egypt's absence from its natural position in leading the Arab nation. Egypt's return [to the Arab fold] is a must. Egypt's return is not an Egyptian concern but, indeed, an Arab concern, since all must work hard to help Egypt overcome its problems and return once again to occupy its position and play its role. The third task is tireless and rapid work to end the Iraq-Iran war so that Iraq is free to play its natural leading role in our Arab nation in confronting imperialism and Zionism. The fourth task is to solve all minor Arab differences so that we all become free for the prime confrontation between our nation and the common enemy who threatens our history and civilization. These priorities emphasize our commitment to the fact that we should maintain fraternal relations with Jordan, Egypt, and Syria and work together to stop the specter of sectarianism now threatening Lebanon, whose borders will not be able to contain it if, God forbid, this specter grows stronger. We shall work actively and resolutely to achieve this; we shall also intensify our military, political, and media struggle.

[Khashanah] Visions and moves are numerous and varied. How will the Executive Committee steer the PLO ship during the next stage?

[Al-Surani] We want to settle this question, which faces us all the time: The PLO is a democratic organization; democracy means plurality, and [automatic] unanimity means dictatorship. We are not ready to relinquish this democracy since every one of us, individual or organization, has the right to express his opinion. We are governed only by the resolutions of the PNC and the Executive Committee, on which our relations with the Arab states and the world as a whole are based. So why is it that when there is a difference of opinion in Europe we say it is democracy; when there is a difference of opinion among our enemies we say: it is democracy; but when there is a difference of opinion within the PLO we say: It is dictatorship?

[Khashanah] After the PNC's decision to abrogate the Amman agreement, what is the basis of future relations with Jordan?

[Al-Surani] There were differences between us and Jordan, but we consider these to be exceptions, since the rule is that relations should be natural. Jordan had frozen the Jordanian-Palestinian agreement, and it had the right to do so, since this agreement no longer serves the requirements of this stage. We accepted this Jordanian move and therefore abrogated the agreement to work toward finding a clear long-term agreement to serve the next stage. We will do everything possible, however remote it may be, to reach an agreement with Jordan since threats are aimed at Jordan following Palestine: Our enemy considers Jordan the alternative homeland of the Palestinian people. We declared and again declare our rejection of a homeland other than Palestine. Thus, we are the protectors of Jordan and its existence. I can confirm that we have not ceased and will not cease to make every effort to establish a natural relationship with Jordan. This will remain our strategy, not just an interim tactic.

[Khashanah] Have contacts with Jordan continued even following the PNC session?

[Al-Surani] Contacts with Jordan did not end before the PNC convened, and they have been maintained since the PNC session.

[Khashanah] What do you expect relations with Syria to be inthe next stage?

[Al-Surani] We are sparing no efforts to establish natural rela-

tions with Syria. We will leave behind all that happened in the past and bear in mind all threats that are aimed at us and Syria. Palestinian, Arab, and international efforts are being made in this regard, taking into account the Palestinian principles, which we mentioned earlier, together with Arab principles.

[Khashanah] In view of what has been achieved so far, are you optimistic?

[Al-Surani] I am certainly optimistic. However, this does not mean that reconciliation can be achieved today; this requires effort and perseverance, which are both being maintained.

[Khashanah] Now that the factions have returned to the leading institutions following their absence, how will matters proceed organizationally? And how can a unified decision be achieved?

[Al-Surani] Record me as being pleased with this reunion and the factions' return to the PLO. This return confirms Palestinian cohesion among the factions inside the occupied territories, Lebanon, and during the camps siege, which constitutes unity of our brothers in the factions when they returned to the PNC. We will work hand in hand for any measure that concerns the PLO's institutions, since we need to reconsider the position of these institutions; this is both essential and healthy. However, I do not believe Palestinian action can proceed without such institutions. There is a great deal of exaggeration when talk turns to the individual and individuality; the fact is that Palestinian divisions are to a large extent responsible for many theoretical concepts. When I face matters with logic and vigor, I find that due to such divisions, an Executive Committee meeting would take a week to arrange; however, when I was in Beirut, I was able to hold a meeting within 3 hours. The Palestinian national fund used to receive its funding at its own headquarters, but now it is forced to move to other places to audit accounts. Therefore, we should not exaggerate our theoretical concepts.

[Khashanah] How do the independents feel within an institution like the Executive Committee, whose decisionmaking is shared by the representatives of organizations that are in agreement, just as they were in Prague, Algiers, Tunis, and Tripoli?

[Al-Surani] The question should be: What do the organizations think, rather than what do the independents think? This is because it is the independents who preserved the PLO when the organizations were divided among themselves; it is they who preserved the quorum of the Amman PNC session; it is they who shouldered the burdens at this stage. Whoever lives in the West Bank, the [Gaza] Strip, Syria, Lebanon, Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, and everywhere else is an independent. If we refer to the PLO Charter, we will find that the PLO is a nationalist front comprising individuals and organizations; each of us is considered an organization on its own. Had the organizations been able to proceed with the PLO alone, they would have done so long ago, but so far the great majority of the Executive Committee, the Central Council, and the PNC is formed of independents. The independents are not individuals because they are committed to the PLO, since they are the custodians of the charter, principal law, institutions, and democracy. It is we who said when arms were brandished: "Stop this and instead direct these arms against the enemy."

Communist Official Interviewed on PNC Decisions

PM131449 London AL-TADAMUN in Arabic 11 Jul 87 pp 19, 20

[Interview with PLO Executive Committee member Sulayman al-Najjab by Rashid Khashanah in Tunis; date not given]

[Text] [Khashanah] Now that the Palestinian Communist Party has joined the PNC and the Executive Committee, how do you view development of the cause in the period following the 18th PNC session, especially since the resolutions led to "shocks" in PLO relations with some Arab states?

[Al-Najjab] At one time the Palestinian national movement became known through armed factions. However, we can now see that many of these armed factions have been transformed into political parties, which is a positive phenomenon of maturity. It proves the depth of the Palestinian nationalist movement and its ability to continue despite the difficulties and complications facing it and the circumstances that might force it to change the basis of its struggle. The representation of our party in the Executive Committee gives us a role to play in working toward implementing the PNC resolutions through this advanced institution. We appreciate the magnitude of the task and will employ all of our resources to serve and achieve the national liberation program and self-determination. The resolutions adopted by the recent PNC session are certainly very important since it is these that guaranteed the achievement of Palestinian national unity. Our unity is based on these political resolutions and our task now is to implement them. We believe that the implementation of these resolutions is not the duty of the Executive Committee alone; it is a task of struggle that every faction, party, mass organization, and Palestinian patriot should work to accomplish. We realize that the 5 million Palestinians who expressed their happiness at the achievement of unity and their support for the implementation of political and organizational resolutions issued during the recent session will adopt these new resolutions and take initiatives in order to implement them.

[Khashanah] How do you view relations with the "confrontation states," since relations with some are severed and those with others are frozen. What is the PLO Executive Committee planning to do to clarify relations with these states?

[Al-Najjab] This question leads us to discuss the Executive Committee's activities at the Arab level. This activity did not arise out of nothing. Our relations with the Arab states are essentially based on resolutions adopted by Arab summits; namely,consensus resolutions. When we specifically refer to the Fes, Rabat, and Baghdad summits, it is to stress the need for the PLO and the participant Arab states to adhere to such resolutions, especially those concerning the Palestinian national cause whichstress the Arab states' commitment to the inalienable right of the Palestinian people to self-determination and the establishment of their independent state, as well as the PLO's sole representation of the Palestinian people. On this level, we shall continue our struggle to ensure that everyone is committed to these positions.

[Khashanah] It seems to observers that the PLO's differences with some Arab states are over positions on an international

conference. Differences with Jordan or Egypt, and even the relationship with Syria, are the result of differing views regarding an international conference and a formula for its convening. How do you view conditions for convening such a conference?

[Al-Najjab] Talk of an international conference is talk of our action as the PLO and Executive Committee at an international level. It is wrong to imagine that attendance at an international conference would be an alternative to struggling or continuing our fight against the Israeli occupiers and U.S. policy. Struggle will continue under Palestinian national unity. However, we are promoting scope for a political solution; namely, an international conference. It is known that the idea of an international conference emerged from two basic factors: The first is the steadfastness of the Palestinian people and the failure of all plots, attempts, and brutal aggression aimed at attempting to eliminate the PLO. All these plots have failed, and what remained was the Palestinian cause, which was presented to the world as the just cause of a people who have their own right to self-determination, to return to their homeland, and to establish an independent state. All attempts to find alternatives to the PLO have failed.

As for the second factor, it is the principled and firm stands adopted by the international allies of the Palestinian people, together with the Soviet leadership's emphasis on the importance of convening and attending an international conference on the grounds that this is the only way to guarantee peace in the region on the basis of restoring the Palestinian people's legitimate rights and eliminating the Israeli occupation of the Arab territories occupied in 1967. The PNC resolution in this regard is very clear and equips the Executive Committee with a clear position. Because it is clear, it is an active and effective position. When we talk of an international conference, we in fact mean an international conference under UN auspices with authorities whose objective is to implement UN resolutions on the Middle East problem and attended by all the parties concerned, including the PLO as an independent party equal to the other parties. The conference should also be attended by the Security Council's permanent member states. On the basis of this concept of an international conference, the PNC supported the Soviet-French initiative calling for the formation of a preparatory committee from the Security Council permanent member states.

[Khashanah] The recent PNC session applied organizational reforms to the operation of PLO institutions. How, in your opinion, will such reforms be implemented?

[Al-Najjab] Recent organizational resolutions have in fact strengthened the PLO as a Palestinian national front. We believe that the first fundamental step toward developing the PLO as a front has been taken by restoring its unity. It is impossible to talk about developing the PLO's ranks at the organizational level when it is divided. Unity of the PLO has now been emphasized on a clear political basis. The important thing when we talk about the organizational aspect of the PLO's development is the tasks that would guarantee that we achieve the national program. For our part, we shall continue struggling in order to develop the alliance and democratic concept of the PLO and all its institutions. We are now faced with an urgent task; namely, to accelerate the restoration of unity among the ranks of the mass organizations that were divided during the past stage. We are stressing the importance of restoring unity on two basic grounds: The first is political, that is, loyalty to the national consensus program and the resolutions of the recent session. The second is organizational, in the sense that proportional representation of the forces participating in these mass organizations should be guaranteed.

PLO's 'Arafat Ends Visit to Bangladesh, Departs

BK111610 Dhaka Domestic Service in English
1530 GMT 11 Jul 87

[Text] PLO Chairman Yasir 'Arafat was given a hearty send-off when he left Dhaka this afternoon ending his 2-day state visit to Bangladesh. President Ershad saw him off at the airport. Vice President Nurul Islam, Prime Minister Mizanur Rahman Chowdhury, ministers, diplomats, and high civil and military officers were also present at the airport to see off the PLO chief. Mr Yasir 'Arafat was given a guard of honor by a smartly turned out contingent drawn from the three services while the national anthems were played. A 21-gun salute boomed in the air as President Ershad was bidding farewell to the PLO chief. Two small children presented bouquets to the PLO chief. The two leaders warmly shook hands and embraced each other in traditional Islamic way before Yasir 'Arafat boarded the plane. Four Air Force jets escorted the special Kuwait Airways aircraft up to the Bangladesh airspace.

Earlier, President Ershad called on the PLO chairman at state guest house "Sugandha." Foreign Minister Humayun Rashid Chowdhury also met the PLO chairman today. During the meeting they agreed the Palestinian issue is the core of the Middle East problem and there can be no peace without resolving the issue. The PLO chief praised Bangladesh's foreign policy. He also described President Ershad as the most courageous leader of the Islamic world.

Fatah Uprising Movement Claims Nabulus Jeep Attack

JN131805 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic
1700 GMT 13 Jul 87

[Text] An Israeli military source said this evening that a Molotov cocktail was thrown at an Israeli military vehicle in Nabulus in the occupied West Bank. According to the Israeli source, there were no human losses and the Israeli Army set up roadblocks to apprehend the perpetrators.

In a statement issued in Damascus, the Fatah Uprising Movement led by Abu Musa [Sa'id Musa Muragha] claimed responsibility for this operation, which it said was carried out by a commando from the martyr Bassam Habash unit and led to the killing of all personnel in the Israeli military jeep. The statement added that the commando managed to flee after this operation.

Egyptian Minister Ghali Continues Visit

Meets With President

NC111045 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0940 GMT 11 Jul 87

[Excerpt] Ndjamena, 11 Jul (MENA) — Chadian President Hissein Habre received a message of support and solidarity from President Husni Mubarak during his meeting [date not specified] with Dr Butrus Ghali, minister of state for foreign affairs, who is currently on a visit to Ndjamena.

Following this meeting, Dr Ghali reiterated Egypt's solid stand in supporting the Chadian people's struggle and the government's sovereignty over its territory.

Dr Ghali described his visit to Chad and the meetings of the joint Egyptian-Chadian ministerial committee as manifestations of close fraternal relations linking the two countries. He declared that these reflect both presidents' desire to strengthen bilateral cooperation and solidarity in various fields.

The Egyptian minister of state for foreign affairs added that Egypt's full solidarity with Chad in its struggles to achieve independence and to protect its regional integrity aims primarily at defending African dignity and at aiding the struggle for political independence. [passage omitted]

Talks End; Communique Issued

NC121417 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1310 GMT 12 Jul 87

[Text] Ndjamena, 12 Jul (MENA) — Egypt and Chad have affirmed that convening an international peace conference under the auspices of the United Nations and within the framework of Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338, with the participation of all parties concerned, is the best method to reach a speedy and lasting Middle East settlement. The two sides also affirmed their full support for the Palestinian people's rights, particularly their right to self-determination. They expressed their conviction that a lasting, comprehensive, and just peace can only be achieved by respecting these rights and by restoring all Arab territories occupied by Israel in June 1967.

This was included in a joint communique issued at the concluding session of the joint Egyptian-Chadian committee. The Egyptian delegation to Chad was led by Dr Butrus Ghali, minister of state for foreign affairs.

Concerning the Iraq-Iran war, the two sides expressed regret at its continuation. They called on the United Nations and the world's nations to redouble efforts to end this tragedy, as well as to impose sanctions on the party that rejects a cease-fire. They added that a cease-fire will open the door to the conflict's peaceful settlement.

Egypt and Chad also agreed in the communique to coordinate their efforts to support the principles and goals of the OAU and African solidarity. The two sides condemned apartheid policies in southern Africa and called on the international community to increase its pressure on Pretoria's racist regime and to work for Nambian independence.

Regarding the Sahara problem, the joint communique called for implementing the UN and OAU resolutions, which demand a referendum on peacefully settling the conflict. The communique also stressed both nations' political will to promote bilateral cooperation in various fields and emphasized Egypt's full support for the Chadian Government's efforts for unity and solidarity of the Chadian territories.

Minister Ghali Concludes Visit

NC121423 Cairo MENA in English 1350 GMT 12 Jul 87

[Text] Ndjamena, July 12 — (MENA) — Dr Butrus Ghali, Egyptian state minister for foreign affairs, said here today he carries a message from President Hissein Habre of Chad to President Husni Mubarak.

In a pre-departure statement Dr. Ghali said his five-day visit to Chad came within the context of consultations and coordination between Egypt and Chad, particularly as regards the issue the coming African summit will discuss.

Dr. Ghali arrived here on Tuesday [7 July] and handed a message of support from President Husni Mubarak to President Habre. He also led meetings of the Egyptian-Chadian joint committee.

President Habre Departs for France 12 Jul

AB121340 Ndjamena Domestic Service in French 1200 GMT 12 Jul 87

[Text] Head of State President Hissein Habre departed Ndjamena this morning at 0730 for the French capital. His journey is at the invitation of French President Francois Mitterrand. This friendly and working visit will last from 12 to 15 July. El Hadj Hissein Habre was seen off this morning by members of the cabinet and the National Union for Independence and Revolution Central Committee. Talks between Presidents Habre and Mitterrand will center on bilateral cooperation as well as current African and international problems. Relations between Paris and Ndjamena are excellent.

In a recent interview granted to Edouard Dore of Radio France International, President Hissein stressed the excellent quality of these relations. France has been providing different kinds of aid to our country, from military aid to the (?implementation) of asectorial reform. Francois Mitterrand and Hissein Habre will together examine ways and means of further strengthening this cooperation.

President Habre is accompanied by his wife and a large delegation that includes, among others, Mr Gouara Lassou, minister of foreign affairs and cooperation; Ahmed Mussami, personal cabinet director; (Yumumba Joseph), assistant undersecretary to the president; and Hassane Djamous, FANT chief of staff.

Habre Stresses Peaceful Means

LD132212 Paris International Service in French 2030 GMT 13 Jul 87

[Excerpt] Following his talks today in Paris President Habre stated during a news conference that he wanted to retake the whole of Chadian territory, including the Aozou Strip. But President Habre hopes to achieve this with peaceful means. Here is what he said:

[Begin Habre recording] It goes without saying that there is still a part of Chadian territory that is occupied in the northernmost part, and in time Chad must recover all the territory it inherited at the time it gained independence. That being said, there remains the problem of the means; we sincerely hope that we will achieve it by peaceful means. But all I can tell you at the present time is that by one way or another, Chad intends to recover all its rights. [end recording]

For his part, the French president did not hide his preference for a peaceful solution of the problem of the Aozou Strip. Here is Francois Mitterrand responding to what Hissein Habre said.

[Begin Mitterrand recording] Chad as a whole, with the exception of the points which have just been clarified by President Hissein Habre, that is the Aozou Strip, is unified. Henceforth, we have to discuss with the Chadian Government the point which seems the most useful, so that the French Republic can determine the points on which it can be useful in safeguarding Chad against any new offensive. [passage omitted] [end recording]

Mitterrand Comments on Aozou

LD131756 Paris International Service in French 1700 GMT 13 Jul 87

[Text] A Chadian in Paris: On an official visit to France, President Hissein Habre met with Mitterrand and Chirac in turn this afternoon. The main subject of the talks was, of course, Chad and in particular France's support in the face of Libya's actions. Hissein Habre wants to recover the whole of Chadian territory, including the Aozou Strip which is still occupied by the Libyans. President Mitterrand prefers a more peaceful solution to this, as he explained to reporter Ralph Pinto:

[Begin Mitterrand recording] We must find out what troops and material we will need, in cooperation with President Hissein Habre, in the northern part of the country. This does not mean that we are going to contribute to or encourage a military reconquest of the Aozou Strip. The problem is of a different kind, given that President Hissein Habre has not said that he has chosen the military path, but that he would be interested in ways and means of bringing together again what appears to him to be the real unity of Chad.

With regard to Aozou, it seems that diplomatic channels and legal arbitration — well, it is our duty is to prefer them to any other solution. In any case, France has no undertakings in this area. [end recording]

Further Reportage on Visit

For reportage on President Hissein Habre's visit to France, including his meetings with President Francois Mitterrand, Prime Minister Jacques Chirac, Foreign Minister Jean-Bernard Raimond, and Defense Minister Andred Giraud, see the France section of the 13 July West Europe *Daily Report* and subsequent issues.

AL-WAFD Comments on Mubarak-Peres Geneva Talks

PM131457 Cairo AL-WAFD in Arabic 12 Jul 87 pp 1,11

[Sa'd Zaghlul Fu'ad report: "On the Mubarak-Peres Meeting in Geneva, Egypt Rejects Plan for Economic Integration With Israel"]

[Text] Geneva — *Al-Wafd* has learned that the meeting held between President Husni Mubarak and Shim'on Peres was at the request of the Israeli prime minister and that during the meeting President Mubarak was more a listener than a speaker. He heard Peres' explanation of his economic development plan for the Middle Eastern countries, including Israel. It has also been learned that President Mubarak declined to comment on the plan, pointing out that there is no room for discussion of such a plan before a comprehensive settlement is achieved. Peres tried to convince the president that the plan should be implemented bilaterally between Egypt and Israel on the grounds that peace has already been established between the two countries. However, his offer was rejected by President Mubarak.

Al-Wafd has further learned that the Israeli deputy prime minister spent the rest of the meeting explaining his efforts for an international conference and talking about the differences between him, on the one hand, and Prime Minister Shamir and the Likud bloc on the other.

President Mubarak confirmed Egypt's firm position to the effect that the PLO is the only side entitled to select the Palestinian delegation to the international conference. Peres repeated the Israeli position ruling out the PLO.

After the meeting Peres said that he was optimistic about the question of holding an international conference. French President Mitterrand stated after his luncheon with President Mubarak that some tangible progress had been made toward an international conference.

Al-Baz, Israel's Tamir Meet on 'Abd al-Majid Visit

NC131545 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 13 Jul 87

[Text] Dr Usamah al-Baz, first under secretary at the Foreign Ministry and director of the President's Office for Political Affairs, met today with Avraham Tamir, the Israeli Foreign Ministry director general. Also present at the meeting were Egypt's ambassador in Tel Aviv and the Israeli ambassador inCairo. The conferees discussed preparations for the visit to Israel by Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid, deputy prime minister and foreign minister.

Tamir Departs Following Talks

NC140530 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2205 GMT 13 Jul 87

[Text] Cairo, 13 Jul (MENA) — Avraham Tamir, director general of the Israeli Foreign Ministry, left Cairo tonight following a visit of several hours.

Egyptian Ambassador to Israel Muhammad Basyuni has stated that Tamir held talks with Dr Usamah al-Baz, Foreign Ministry first under secretary and director of the President's Office for Political Affairs, on ways to promote peace efforts and preparations for an international conference, Egypt's primary goal at this time. Ambassador Basyuni added that Egypt regards an international peace conference as the only practical method now available to achieve a comprehensive and just peace in the region. He noted the need to maintain momentum in efforts to achieve peace through this conference.

The Egyptian ambassador left Cairo tonight for Israel after attending the talks between Tamir and other Egyptian officials.

Sidqi Receives Sudanese Party Leader Al-Mirghani

NC131426 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1328 GMT 13 Jul 87

[Text] Cairo, 13 Jul (MENA) — Prime Minister Dr 'Atif Sidqi received Muhammad 'Uthman al-Mirghani, leader of the Sudanese Democratic Unionist Party, as well as the delegation accompanying him, in his office this afternoon. The two fraternal states' friendly relations were reviewed at this meeting.

Wafd Party Member Denies 'Dispute' With Mubarak

NC131812 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1710 GMT 13 Jul 87

[Text] Cairo, 13 Jul (MENA) — Yasin Siraj al-Din, head of the Wafd Party's parliamentary committee, has stated that there is no dispute between the Wafd Party and President Husni Mubarak.

In a statement today, Siraj al-Din said: Anyone who believes such a thing is mistaken. The whole affair is nothing more than a difference of opinion; it certainly does not reach the level of a dispute. We honor and respect President Mubarak. This has been the constant stand of Wafd Party leader Fu'ad Siraj al-Din.

Kidnappers May Hand Over Hostages in Ethiopia
JN131705 Abu Dhabi AL-ITTIHAD in Arabic 12 Jul 87 p 3

[Text] Khartoum — The kidnapping of three U.S. citizens and a British nurse in the Equatoria Region in southern Sudan is still shrouded in mystery. A Sudanese security source has told *Al-Ittihad* that the kidnapping took place following an attack by rebels belonging to John Garang's movement against an area near Maridi. The source added that the rebels have not specified what they seek from this operation but that there is a possibility the captors will hand the four hostages over to the U.S. and British Embassies in Addis Ababa.

Relief Works Commissioner General Muhammad Kamil Shawqi told *Al-Ittihad* he has not yet received any information on the four foreign nationals and that he is holding contacts with the pertinent security bodies to learn about the kidnapping and the fate of the hostages.

Paulino Lako Kadi [name as published], member of the Constituent Assembly, told *Al-Ittihad* that John Garang's movement is responsible for the kidnappings, and that it will claim responsibility for this act following the hostages' arrival on Ethiopian territory. He also stated that this movement will bargain with the United States and the United Kingdom on releasing the hostages in exchange for weapons, foodstuffs, and further pressure by the United States and the United Kingdom on the Sudanese Government to give the southern Sudanese problem a broader international dimension.

KUWAIT

Oil Tankers Company Chairman on Flagged Tankers

LD131638 Kuwait KUNA in English 1442 GMT 13 Jul 87

[By Shamel Khayri]

[Text] Kuwait, July 13 (KUNA) — Chairman of the Kuwait Oil Tankers Company (KOTC), 'Abd al-Fattah al-Badr, Monday confirmed that arrangements to raise the U.S. flag by 11 re-registered Kuwaiti oil tankers were going ahead as scheduled, without the least delay.

The official indicated that the operation will take place sometime this month, but refused to give a specific date.

"Everything is proceeding as scheduled," he emphasized, "and according to the programme and arrangements agreed upon between the Kuwaiti and American sides."

Al-Badr said that the first two tankers, raising the American flag, to enter the Arab Gulf will be a Kuwaiti supertanker and a liquefied gas carrier of a loading capacity of 40,000 tonnes. He added that the two vessels would sail up to the Gulf to Kuwait's harbor before the end of present July.

Explaining the arrangement, the KOTC executive said one of the 11 Kuwaiti tankers, flying the U.S. flag, would engage in shuttle trips between Kuwaiti ports and the mouth of the Arab Gulf to transport crude and oil byproducts for transhipment onto other vessels for eventual delivery to customers abroad.

The remaining other 10 tankers, he indicated, will operate normally and will transport crude, gas and products consignments shipped from Kuwaiti ports for direct delivery to outside customers.

However, the official cautioned that the nature and mode of operation of the 10 tankers could be changed anytime in case of necessity.

Detailing the re-registered fleet, the official said it comprised one supertanker for transport of crude, six vessels for carrying oil byproducts and four liquefied gas tankers with a combined tonnage of 1.5 million.

The crude oil tanker, he said, has a loading capacity of 400,000 tonnes, the liquefied gas carriers are of 47,000 tonnes loading capacity each, while the six for transport of petroleum byproducts include two with an individual loading capacity of 290,000 tonnes and the four each carrying 80,000.

Al-Badr emphasized that the raging war between Iraq and Iran has neither affected delivery to outside customers of Kuwaiti crude and byproducts shipments nor delayed, even partially, the movement of the company's fleet of 22 vessels, adding that the operation rate of the Kuwaiti tankers fleet remains to be 100 percent as in the past several years.

The company executive concluded that Kuwait would charge additional transport premium from the customers in return for delivery of the crude of byproducts consignment outside the Arab Gulf region by Kuwaiti tankers. Though the official did not give specific figures, some oil sources here indicated that additional transport premium charges will average between 20 and 30 cents per barrel.

Foreign Minister Receives Soviet Ambassador

LD111302 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1235 GMT 11 Jul 87

[Text] Kuwait, 11 Jul (KUNA) — Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad al-Jabir al-Sabah, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, received in his office today Ernest Zverev, Soviet ambassador to the State of Kuwait. Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad told reporters that the Soviet ambassador had conveyed a message from Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze in reply to his message to Shevardnadze. He added that the message conveyed by the Soviet ambassador spells out the USSR's full support for Kuwait and for its stability.

Amir, Prime Minister Receive Arab League's Klibi

LD131233 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1000 GMT 13 Jul 87

[Text] At 1000 today, the Kuwaiti amir received Arab League Secretary General Chedli Klibi on the occasion of his visit to Kuwait. Also present was Sa'ud Muhammad al-'Usaymi, Kuwaiti minister of state for foreign affairs.

At 1030 today, at his office at the premiership, Shaykh Sa'd al-'Abdallah al-Salim al-Sabah, the prime minister and heir apparent, received Arab League Secretary General Chedli Klibi on the occasion of his visit to Kuwait. Present at the meeting were Sa'ud Muhammad al-'Usaymi, Kuwaiti minister of state for foreign affairs, and 'Issa Muhammad al-Mazidi, minister of state for services affairs.

Klibi Departs for Saudi Arabia

LD131659 Kuwait KUNA in English 1543 GMT 13 Jul 87

[Text] Kuwait July 13 (KUNA) — Arab League Secretary General Chedli Klibi left here Monday for Al-Ta'if, Saudi Arabia, at the conclusion of a two-day visit to Kuwait.

He was seen off by State Minister for Foreign Affairs Sa'ud Muhammad al-'Usaymi and acting Foreign Secretary Faysal al-Salih al-Mutawwa' [name as received]. Klibi, who arrived here last night, met with HRH the amir and HMH the crown prince and premier in addition to the deputy premier and foreign minister and the finance minister.

Defense Minister Receives Saudi Naval Delegation

LD131320 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1148 GMT 13 Jul 87

[Text] Kuwait, 13 July — In his office this morning, Kuwaiti Defense Minister Shaykh Salim al-Sabah received a Saudi naval delegation led by Major Ahmad Muhammad al-Suwayd.

The visit by the Saudi delegation falls within the framework of naval cooperation between the two countries, particularly with regard to combing Kuwaiti regional waters to clear them of marine mines and to clear the entrance of the sea canal leading to Al-Ahmadi port of mines that were recently discovered there. The Saudi naval delegation met with Kuwaiti Chief of Staff Major General Mizyid 'Abd al-Rahman al-Sani', who discussed these matters with the delegation members from a military viewpoint, as well as the positive results achieved by the naval forces of the two sister countries.

OMAN

Iranian Envoy Confers With Qabus Representative

LD131722 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 13 Jul 87

[Text] In Oman today, the charge d'affaires of the Islamic Republic of Iran met and conferred with the special representative of Sultan Qabus. In this meeting, the Iranian envoy described the positions and the foreign policy of the Islamic Republic of Iran in opposing domination and allowing domination [saltehgari va saltepaziri]. In this meeting, the special representative of Sultan Qabus also said: We, too, desire the security and peace of the region and the noninterference of foreigners in it. We beseech God Almighty for your success in establishing security and removing foreign interference from this sensitive region.

PDRY

Salim Salih Muhammad Departs for Moscow 13 Jul

EA132016 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 13 Jul 87

[Text] Brother Salim Salih Muhammad, assistant secretary general and secretary of the YSP Central Committee, left Aden for Moscow this evening on a special visit to the USSR at the invitation of the CPSU Central Committee. The visit will last a few days.

Al-'Attas Meets With Somali Foreign Minister

EA132023 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 13 Jul 87

[Text] This evening at the secretariat of the Presidium, Brother Haydar Abu Bakr al-'Attas, member of the Political Bureau and chairman of the Presidium of the People's Supreme Council, met Brother Dr Abdurahman Jama Barre, the foreign minister of the Somali Democratic Republic [SDR], who is currently visiting our country. Dr Barre expressed pleasure at visiting the PDRY and admiration for its various achievements. During the meeting, he conveyed to Brother Haydar Abu Bakr al-'Attas greetings from his brother, Mohamed Siad Barre, the SDR president. He also expressed appreciation for the generous hospitality, welcome, and attention he had received from our country's officials. Brother Haydar Abu Badr al-'Attas welcomed the SDR foreign minister and expressed satisfaction over the outcome of the meetings between the Yemeni and Somali sides in Mogadishu and Aden. He also stressed the fraternal ties and bonds linking the two fraternal peoples and the horizons open before these relations. The brother chairman of the Presidium asked Dr Barre to convey his fraternal greetings to his brother Mohamed Siad Barre, the SDR president.

The meeting was attended by Brother Dr 'Abd al-'Aziz al-Dali, member of the Political Bureau and foreign minister; Brother 'Awad 'Abdallah Misbah, our country's ambassador to the SDR; and Brother Abdisalam Ma'alim Adam, the SDR ambassador in Aden.

YSP Central Committee Political Bureau Meets

EA131951 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 12 Jul 87

[Text] The YSP Central Committee Political Bureau held its regular meeting this morning under the chairmanship of Brother 'Ali Salim al-Bid, secretary general of the YSP Central Committee. Several reports on the agenda, including a special report on employment, training, and appointments regulations, were discussed. The agenda also included a report on the joint Yemeni-Ethiopian agricultural company.

While reviewing the balance of human resources, the Political Bureau stressed the importance of intensifying action to effect their optimal application so as to reorganize an increase in the number of job opportunities as well as to redistribute these jobs and improve abilities and skills [words indistinct]. The Political Bureau stressed the need for commitment to the resolutions of the supreme leadership on organizing the labor force to meet the requirements of social and economic development and of various economic spheres in the country. [passage indistinct] In the context of analyzing Yemeni-Ethiopian relations, the Political Bureau acquainted itself with the situation and activities of the joint Yemeni-Ethiopian agricultural company and entrusted the authorities concerned in the Ministry of Agriculture and Agrarian Reform to promote its potentials and to rectify the difficulties which hamper its development so as to strengthen cooperation between the two friendly countries and peoples.

SAUDI ARABIA

Ethiopia's Berhanu Hands Mengistu Message to King

LD132058 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 13 Jul 87

[Text] King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz al-Sa'ud, the custodian of the two holy mosques, has received a message from His Excellency Ethiopian President Mengistu Haile Mariam. The message was

conveyed to the custodian of the two holy mosques by His Excellency Mr Berhanu Bayeh, member of the Political Bureau and minister of foreign affairs, during his audience this afternoon. The meeting was attended by Muhammad Ibrhaim Mas'ud, the minister of state and member of the Council of Ministers, and Hamid Yahya, the Saudi charge d'affaires in Ethiopia. It was also attended by (Ekilo Afob), Ethiopian minister of foreign trade, and Mr 'Abd al-Mannan Ahmad, the Ethiopian ambassador to the Kingdom.

Berhanu Departs After Visit

LD140852 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 0515 GMT 14 Jul 87

[Text] Jeddah, 14 Jul (SPA) — Berhanu Bayeh, member of the Ethiopian Political Bureau and foreign minister, left Jeddah this morning for home at the end of his 5-day visit to Saudi Arabia. He was seen off at the King 'Abd al-'Aziz International Airport by Ambassador 'Isa al-Nuwaysir, chief of protocol at the Foreign Ministry; Salih al-'Anbar, chief of the African Desk at the Foreign Ministry; Hamid Yahya, the Saudi charge d'affaires in Ethiopia; and the Ethiopian ambassador to the Kingdom, as well as a number of officials.

Arab League's Chedli Klibi Arrives in Al-Ta'if

LD131930 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1755 GMT 13 Jul 87

[Text] Al-Ta'if, 13 Jul (SPA) — Arab League Secretary General Chedli Klibi arrived this evening in Al-Ta'if on a visit to the Kingdom. He was welcomed at the airport by Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal, foreign minister; 'Isa al-Nuwaysir, chief of protocol at the Foreign Ministry; a representative of the Royal Protocol; and a number of officials.

Prince Sa'ud, Klibi Confer

LD141312 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 14 Jul 87

[Text] This morning at his office in Al-Ta'if, Saudi Foreign Minister Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal met with Arab League Secretary General Chedli Klibi, who is now on a visit to the Kingdom. During their meeting the two men reviewed current Arab conditions.

Following the meeting, Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal made a statement to SPA in which he said that he discussed with the Arab League secretary general matters pertaining to the League Council and preparations for the forthcoming meeting of the Arab League Council. He pointed out that there are numerous issues facing the League. He added that discussions during the meeting covered organizational matters pertaining to the League in addition to contacts conducted by Klibi in Arab countries. On the chances of holding an Arab summit conference, Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal said Saudi Arabia still adheres to its position contained in the Cabinet statement affirming the Kingdom's readiness to atttend a summit conference. He added that there is no obstacle to holding the summit conference as far as the Kingdom is concerned and that what is needed are favorable conditions for Arab harmony so the summit can tackle the problems facing the Arab nation with a unified stance. He said that foremost of these issuesis the Palestine issue and the Iraq-Iran war. He reiterated the Kingdom's readiness to attend any Arab summit conference necessitated by conditions at any time and place fixed for that purpose.

Prince Sa'ud Ends UAE Visit, Returns to Al-Ta'if

LD131940 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1755 GMT 13 Jul 87

[Text] Al-Ta'if, 13 Jul (SPA) — His Royal Highness Foreign Minister Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal returned to Al-Ta'if this evening following a short visit to the UAE during which he delivered a message from King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, custodian of the two holy mosques, to his brother UAE President Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan. The message dealt with the latest developments in the area and bilateral relations. During his visit, Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal met with His Highness Shaykh Khalifah ibn Zayid, heir apparent and deputy supreme commander of the UAE Armed Forces. He also met with Mr Rashid 'Abdallah, UAE minister of state for foreign affairs. He was welcomed at the airport by the chief of protocol at the Foreign Ministry and a number of senior ministry officials.

UNITED ARAB EMIRATES

Zayid Receives Prince Sa'ud, King Fahd Message

JN131103 Abu Dhabi Domestic Service in Arabic 0930 GMT 13 Jul 87

[Text] His Highness UAE President Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan received a message from Saudi King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, the custodian of the two holy mosques, on the latest developments in the region and bilateral relations. Saudi Foreign Minsiter Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal conveyed the message when the president received him in the Rawdat al-Rif Palace today. The meeting was attended by His Highness Shaykh Hamdan ibn Rashid Al Maktum, finance and industry minister; His Highness Rashid 'Abdallah, minister of state for foreign affairs; and Shaykh Hamdan ibn Zayid, under secretary of the Foreign Ministry.

Saudi Foreign Minister Departs

JN131817 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1740 GMT 13 Jul 87

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 13 Jul (WAKH) — Saudi Foreign Minister Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal left Abu Dhabi this evening following a brief visit to the UAE. During his visit, the Saudi foreign minister conveyed a message from King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, custodian of the two holy mosques, to His Highness Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan, the UAE president, dealing with developments in the region and bilateral relations. During his brief visit,Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal met with His Highness Shaykh Khalifah ibn Zayid, Abu Dhabi heir apparent and deputy commander in chief of the UAE Armed Forces. He also met with Rashid 'Abdallah, UAE minister of state for foreign affairs.

Further Battle Reports From Gulf Conflict

Claims of Downed Plane Refuted

JN131224 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1137 GMT 13 Jul 87

[Text] Baghdad, 13 Jul (INA) — An Iraqi military spokesman has refuted Iranian claims that its forces downed an Iraqi aircraft today. In a statement to INA a short while ago, the military spokesman declared: We are accustomed to hearing such lies whenever we succeed in destroying any vital Iranian target. The spokesman then challenged Iran's rulers to present one piece of evidence confirming their allegations, noting that Iran as always did not report knowing where the plane fell or the fate of its pilot. The spokesman asked: How can they shoot down the aircraft and yet not know where it fell? In concluding his statement, the Iraqi spokesman affirmed that all Iraqi aircraft returned safely to base.

Communique No 2,742 Issued

JN131656 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1604 GMT 13 Jul 87

[Communique No 2,742 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 13 July 1987]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Our brave Armed Forces continue to confront the disintegrating, rotten gangs being driven by the great charlatan to the death crematorium on our lofty borders. A roundup of activities for last night and today follows:

1. The criminal Khomeyniite regime dispatched gangs of its remnants in a futile attempt to approach our forward positions in the VI Army Corps sector east of the Tigris. Our valiant men of the heroic Al-Husayn Forces confronted the enemy and showered them with a hail of fire. Most of the Iranians were wiped out, while the remainder fled, pursued by God's curse and Iraqi fire.

2. Our Air Force carried out 42 combat missions against enemy supply routes as well as against troop concentrations, positions, weapons, and vital targets linked to the war effort. After completing their missions, our hawks then returned safely to base in God's care and protection.

3. Our bold helicopter gunships today carried out 21 combat missions, inflicting further losses of personnel and equipment on the aggressive tyrants. Our gunships then returned safely to base, praise be to God.

4. Using tanks, one of our brave units in the IV Army Corps sector east of Maysan dealt a concentrated blow to enemy areas across from them. This unit killed or wounded a number of scoundrels and destroyed one vehicle, seven infantry positions, a weapons emplacement, and six observation posts.

5. In various areas in the III Army Corps sector east of Al-Basrah, our patrols captured the following weapons in addition to a quantity of equipment and hardware earlier abandoned by the enemy: 10 RPG-7 launchers, 3 60-mm mortars, and 11 rifles of various types. In other areas in this sector, a number of enemy soldiers were killed and two ammunition dumps were destroyed.

6. A vehicle was set on fire, two troops positions were destroyed, an ammunition dump was detonated, and a light machinegun and two Kalashnikov rifles were captured in the I Army Corps northern sector.

7. One 106-mm gun mounted on a vehicle and a number of enemy positions were destroyed in the Special I Army Corps sector of the Allahu Akbar Forces.

8. The criminal Iranian regime shelled residential quarters in the town of Abu al-Khasib with long-range artillery, damaging civilian houses and property.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 13 July 1987

Communique No 2,743 Issued

JN140921 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 0830 GMT 14 Jul 87

[Communique No 2,743 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 14 July 1987]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. God is great. Praise be to Him, and from Him we seek assistance. In continuing to further destroy the charlatanist regime's economic structure — a regime which insists on using its national resources to launch aggression against our people and to continue the war in violation of Almighty God's will, the international community's wishes, and the peoples' interests — in implementing our firm and legitimate right to deprive the aggressors of all resources they employ in their aggressive war instead of using them for developmental purposes, and in fulfilling our Air Force's pledge to deal continuous, decisive punishment against the tyrannical, fascist, Zionist clique ruling in Iran, the aircraft of our heroic Air Force carried out the following heroic missions last night and today:

1. Our daring planes this morning headed for the extremely important (Rakhsh) oilfields in the Arab Gulf, more than 650 km beyond our international border. As usual, our daring, brave, and rapacious hawks penetrated the enemy defenses. They reached their targets at 0837 [0437 GMT] today, showered them with Iraqi bombs that have no mercy on enemies, then destroyed them and set them ablaze.

2. Other planes flew to Farsi Island this morning to again pour Iraqi anger on it and to deliver a blow to these targets, the second attack in 2 days. This took place at 0756 [0356 GMT] today. Farsi Island is located in the Arab Gulf about 330 km beyond our international border. During this raid, our Air Force aircraft destroyed other selected targets on the island, setting them ablaze.

3. As announced in the military spokesman's statement last night, the planes of our heroic Air Force once again attacked the oil tanker holding area east of Khark Island at 2155 [1755 GMT

on 13 July], and dealt their targets devastating blows. After carrying out all these daring missions, our rapacious hawks and their aircraft then returned safely and triumphantly to the homeland, bringing with them the good news of victory.

O glorious Iraqis, these daring activities by our heroic Air Force, activities that demonstrate a unique use of the Air Force, are a gift to all of you and to our great, triumphant leader, Saddam Husayn, on the occasion of our celebrating the glorious July revolution. Glory to capable, free, and peaceful Iraq. Continue to carry out glorious deeds, O men of our heroic Air Force — commander, hawks, officers, and other ranks. God be praised for His righteous victory. We wish our Iraq continued happiness under its great leader.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 14 July 1987

110 Killed, Wounded in Ilam by Opposition Army

JN101856 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1600 GMT 10 Jul 87

[Text] London, 10 Jul (INA) — The Iranian National Liberation Army [INLA] fighters have attacked seven bases belonging to the Iranian regime in Ilam, killing and wounding 110 regime collaborators and capturing 5 others.

A statement issued here today by the office of the Iranian opposition organization Mojahedin-e Khalq claims that INLA battalions yesterday launched an attack on three bases affiliated with the Khomeyniite regime in the Khani-Sheykh area in the Ilam region. This organization seized mountain peak No 650 in the Badam Safid [as received] Mountains, where the third unit from the so-called Jerusalem Battalion 740 affiliated with the regime is stationed.

The INLA fighters destroyed 23 personnel positions, 1 ammunition depot, and 1 command post. They additionally seized large quantities of ammunition and weapons, including antiaircraft guns, MGS-3 heavy guns, rifles, 81-mm mortars, and RPG-7 launchers.

Meanwhile, the INLA fighters attacked four support bases belonging to the Iranian enemy in the same area. They destroyed these bases, set them ablaze, and killed or wounded their occupants.

Further on Opposition Actions

JN111740 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1500 GMT 11 Jul 87

[Text] Fighters of the Iranian Komeleh opposition organization carried out a number of military operations against Iranian regime forces in the towns of Divan Darreh and Sar Dasht at the beginning of this month. A communique issued by the organization today stated that during a recent daring military operation, its combat units managed to take control of one of the positions occupied by regimeforces in the heights lying between Dahan and (Basles) villages in the Khvor Khvoreh District. The communique explained that the organization's fighters launched a resolute attack against the regime's forces and inflicted heavy casualties on them. The fighters also managed to seize large quantities of weapons and ammunition.

In another operation, the Komeleh fighters killed 13 enemy soldiers, captured others, destroyed military trucks, and seized quantities of weapons and hardware in an attack against the regime's forces in Kavakaj.

Oil Minister, Delegation Return From Turkey

JN101537 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1500 GMT 10 Jul 87

[Text] Baghdad, 10 Jul (INA) — Iraq Minister of Oil 'Isam 'Abd al-Rahim and his accompanying delegation returned here today following a 2-day visit to Turkey. During this visit, the Iraqi official headed the Iraqi side at meetings of the ministerial committee tasked with following up implementation of the Iraq-Turkish oil pipeline's second expansion project. The Turkish side was led by Kurtcebe Alptemucin, minister of finance and customs. The Iraqi minister held a series of meetings with a number of contractors working on the project during his inspection of field work's progress at a number of sites. This inspection sought to complete the project's final touches.

Saddam Husayn Article on Iraq-Iran Conflict

JN061550 Baghdad INA in English 1200 GMT 6 Jul 87

[Text] Baghdad, July 6, INA — President Saddam Husayn has stressed that Iraq will reject any partial settlement to the Iraq-Iran war, saying that Iraqis should watch all developments in the Arab world and the world at large and suspect any attempt to divide the war and the security of the region.

In an article entitled "Some Aspects of Iraq-Iran War — Before and After," President Husayn said that Iraqis should reject with vigour and awareness any decision not in keeping with five principles declared as an irrevocable way to end the war.

President Husayn said that when the war broke out between Iraq and Iran as a result of Iran's recklessness, aggressive nature and other motives, many expected that the war would not last long. In fact, many of those who were aware of Iran's aggressive nature did not predict a war as an inevitable outcome of such an aggressive conduct and the dangerous intentions it involved. They based their conviction on various factors.

The president added that the analysis of Iraq was taking a different course even if a picture of the whole years of the war as a real time factor was not to be imagined. "It is quite evident that our policy, our calculations and measures imply that we did figure out a long war and we did anticipate it. We were never taken in. Hence our policy and its consequences were quite disappointing to many. These also constituted one real factor in prolonging the war," the president said.

President Husayn affirmed that the great powers, or the influential circles there, have realised that the game of prolonging the war would not be fully compatible with their wishes and that the

war might bring surprises leading to anadverse effect on the strategic rather than on the tatical level. This effect might go beyond the borders of the region to affect the world at large.

The president elaborated that the most grave chain of these probabilities is what is awaiting Iran itself as a result of the continuation of the war, the calculations of power and conflict and its effects and dangers as far as the East and West are concerned.

The president affirmed that the success of Iraq's policy declared inside and outside in economy, social life, armament policy and the building up of the Armed Forces is bound to encourage other states to find the right path and follow it. This would promote a reassessment of interests and make superpowers and others respect the Arabs' rights and interests in any relations these superpowes would like to establish with the Arabs.

President Husayn said that the year 1979 was the dividing line between a method and another to confront the revolution in Iraq. The playmates from outside the region and from within had realised the failure of the 1979 conspiracy. They realised that the political leadership in Iraq had ended for ever the designs on this country and the hopes pinned on the results of the conspiracy which was expected to lead to apostacy.

"When this conspiracy failed, other conspiracies on the internal level by inciting sedition here and there or provocations on the border as happened during the shah's reign also failed. Thus, there had to be another way to confront the revolution (in Iraq) and its men. Thus there was no other way but external aggression and war to achieve evil ambitions and interests. [no end quotation as received]

The president said that Khomeynism assumed power while the Arabs' dress was full of holes. This was coupled with jumps in oil revenues leading to social, financial and adminsitrative corruption. So the new conditions in Iran led to a real panic in the Arab world, particularly in regimes ignorant of what destiny had in store for them within the ranks of their own peoples or because they had not been prepared to receive such conditions as those which surface in Iran. It is also because none of the Arabs, apart from Iraq, was able to confront the new conditions in Iran. Similarly, none of the other countries in the region apart from Iran would be able to tame the Iraqi model or destroy it.

President Husayn added that in light of regional and international factors as well as of the new Iranian regime's ambitions and stupid conviction that it could defeat Ba'thist Iraq as it did with the shah's regime, no serious voice rose in the Arab world or in the world at large against the Iranian attack on Iraq whether that which took place in early September 1980 or before, as demonstrated by a series of attempts of aggression on land, in the air and on the sea. "In fact many parties nourished Iranian expansionism giving the Iranians a soft picture of the possibility of achieving their intentions and so the war broke out."

Following is the full text of President Husayn article:

When the war broke out between Iraq and Iran as a result of Iran's recklessness, aggressive nature, and other motives, many expected that the war would not last long. In fact many of those who were aware of Iran's aggressive nature did not predict a war as an inevitable outcome of such an aggressive conduct and the dangerous intentions involved. They based their conviction on various factors, some indicating that the region is so volatile that it would not allow anyone from within the region or from outside to behave in this direction (war) or even to give it although without making accurate calculations of the danger that might arise when fire breaks out in two adjacent petrol reserves, Iraq and Iran, for both countries are situated at the Arab Gulf which has a special position, with the relevant effect on the surrounding areas such as the Indian Ocean and the Arabian sea and related areas. [sentence as received]

The most dominant inclination was that none of the Western nations, in particular, and their allies would push (things) in this direction because their interests are tied to the above-mentioned factors which are against the outbreak of war and its continuation for a long time.

And if the West is in no position to encourage the out- break of the war or its prolongation, the communist East cannot press for it or help prolong it even if the latter did have such an intention for political gains out of the war. However, our analysis (of the situation), as Iraqis, was taking a different course even if a picture of the whole years of the war as a real time factor was not to be imagined. It is quite evident that our policy, our calculations and measures imply that we did figure out a long war and we did anticipate it. We were never taken in. Hence, our policy and its consequences were quite disappointing to many. These also constituted one real factor in prolonging the war.

How did this happen? How do we view it? Reading into our own course and what lay in wait for us, we since 1977 had been unquestionably aware that 1980 would mark an end to an era and the start of a new era for the revolution and for the people of Iraq. This would be seen in going ahead with our social, economic and political programmes on the domestic level, our Arab policy which was made clear by the national declaration (1980) which shed light on a basic part of the conception and implicatiosn of this policy, and our Arab policy before the national declaration, which rejected vision, conflict or belligerency and called for tolerance, rapprochement and interaction along the way of common objectives to reduce the chances of undermining the Arabs' existence by foreigners.

Our policy on the international level had become very clear: We establish our international relations on the basis of constant principles in our policy, in the forefront of this policy is that we are independent — which is not merely a claim, though we deeply realise what independence means to the world of today for a country of 15 million people or a little more. Our relations with any country and the ensuing policies are presumably linked to the fact that such relations should be in the interests of Iraq and the Arab nation. All this is taken into consideration by Iraqi policy makers and executors in all circumstances and stages though we also realise that in the world of today it is assumed that any such relations should assume that the other party should benefit to some extent.

However, before asking ourselves about the interest of a foreign party in any relations we should first specify our own interests and their foundations so as to prepare a yardstick to measures the other party's interests which we may approve and those which we may not. This would also be a constant basis for any preconceived policies and presumptions we make for our intentions.

Many parties in the international arena, including superpowers have realised that such a policy was not one for statements or publicity such as those that come within propaganda or "domestic consumption" as some do, but rather is a policy for practice and that it is quite possible to put into practice if the Iraqis proceed along the same course which has become clear in action before words.

If we realise that the cornerstone of the superpowers and the Western countries' policies in the region, which are aimed at realising their interests or rather their hegemony is a view based on the opposite assumption and opposite psychology and behaviour, we will realise that the Iraqi policy will be seen as a king of dangerous policy which transcends in its impact Iraq's border to the region. They might give different names for this policy — which help them gain their objectives.

This is because the Western superpowers have achieved their interests in the past and present by persuading some parties in the region and some governments here that our (the Arabs) national interests would be achieved when Western interests are achieved. Such opposite presumption might not imply danger when it becomes a mere wish in the hearts of Western powers but it does become so when it turns into policies put for practice which the other party (Arab governments) has either to reject or accept as a whole or at least partially.

What is more dangerous is when the peoples of the region are convinced of or submit to various influences and methods related to such an assumption as if it were the sole reality in international relations or when they believe that opposing or rejecting it would only result in what is worse.

This policy and its psychological bases were used as a pretext when the West colonised the Arab nation. It came under a pretext different from present ones that the Arabs are backward and could not manage their affairs in politics, culture, economy and that it is the responsibility of the civilised West towards humanity and the Arabs that the West should transform the Arabs into a better situation. Transforming the Arabs into a better situation implied that they should be colonised. The Western powers or a majority of them still promote the same concepts in their oil, trade, economic and cultural policies as well as in their armament policy towards this region.

The assumption that the developed states are more capable and more knowledgeable of what we need or what we do not in this age and its successive states still exists. Even if some are no longer able to say it or to act upon it in the open they are in fact still promoting it particularly with regard to Israel's policy of aggression in the region.

The revolution in Iraq and the course taken by the Iraqi people have proved that the concepts we have declared as principles of our domestic and foreign policy are quite applicable. They have also proved that the way chosen by some in dealing with the peoples of the region and the Arab world is a devious one which can be rejected, knowing there is another option.

The reaction of the superpowers and the West in particular, assisted by the Zionist policies against Iraq, has taken a serious dimension because Iraq has only 15 million people and is an oil producing country and a Gulf state where a prosperous and open economy can flourish without being inwardly closed or indefinitely open to the Western economic ambitions and maneuvers.

If this policy is expressed or practised in one way or another, in Egypt, for example, it could be said that what is allowed for a country of 50 million people or more may not be allowed for smaller countries and if it were allowed for a non-oil state, it would not be allowed for an oil one.

What if this country comes from the region and not from outside? The countries of the region have similar conditions, objectives and aspirations in general though differing in certain national characteristics, while Third World countries with the exception of a few, have no similarities because of national differences and other factors inherent in their structure and character.

The implication is even different when this country is situated on the Arab Gulf and not somewhere else.

A success of Iraq's policy declared inside and outside in economy, social life, armament policy and the building up of the Armed Forces is bound to encourage other states to find the right path and follow it. This would promote a reassessment of interests and make superpowers and others respect the Arabs, rights and interests in any relations these superpowers would like to establish with the Arabs.

Countries with special ambitions have a certain experience with Third World countries. They used to hear a lot of highflown words on the radio and read a lot of statements and speeches in the press, all of which not preceded or followed by an action up to the level of publicity. Then they have come across a new totally different situation [where] prior publicity is at the minimum level and action is the real core of what is said or described.

There is usually a delicate equilibrium between what is said and what is done — which is considered as something confined to the big powers. Smaller states, when trying to follow such a course at any stage, would sooner or later deviate and regress, regretting what they had been "misled" into taking and choosing.

The year 1979 was the dividing line between a method and another to confront the revolution in Iraq. The playmates from outside the region and from within had realised the failure of the 1979 conspiracy. They realised that the political leadership in Iraq had ended for ever the designs on this country and the hopes pinned on the results of the conspiracy which was expected to lead to apostacy.

When this conspiracy failed, other conspiracies on the internal level by inciting sedition here and there or provocations on the border as happened during the shah's reign also failed. Thus,

there had to be another way to confront the revolution (in Iraq) and its men. Thus there was no other way but external aggression and war to achieve evil ambitions and interests.

To draw a clear picture here, we must say in brief that foreign ambitions reached this conclusion to coincide with the shah's fall. The shah's fall opened the road for numerous other possibilities in Iran whereby other factors of conflict between the West and the East became actively involved in reaping the outcome of the Iranian revolution.

The West was more content with the course of the Iranian revolution and its direction. Documents have revealed the strained relations between the shah and the Americans on the eve of the Iranian revolution. A lot of conclusion about how the Iranian revolution broke out and its following course showed that there were certain aspirations by the Iranian peoples and national forces, on the one hand, and certain plans and hopes by evil forces, agents and adventures on the other.

This factor together with the fact that the Iranian revolution was not put decisively on a clear road made the communist East and the capitalist West engage in conflict inside Iran and or its land and naval approaches, each trying to shape things along their plans or try to reap whatever results it could.

Some major Western countries realised that the way they followed with the Arabs in the region to tame some governments with national and revolutionary tendencies or with tendencies of independence is a successful one which had undermined many regimes and trends or forced others to change route.

Hence, wherever they found an unsettled case which defies their criteria, they had to opt for some appropriate methods, these methods and intentions met with those of evil figures in Iran and the Zionist entity. A number of factors helped in timing this. Some of these factors were related to the oil market conditions and their effect on solidarity among OPEC countries in laying the pricing policy and the volume of output. Despite the disagreement between Iraq and Iran over many issues, up to the level of war at times (during the shah's reign), they used to agree on a lot of issues in OPEC's policy particularly concerning the prices and volume of production. This was in contrast in one way or another, to the policy of those countries that benefitted from undermining the OPEC countries attitudes.

All these factors together opened the new method, and hence the war between Iraq and Iran. With regards to this analysis in particular, we understand why Iran was pushed to a war and why the war has taken so long. As a background we should recall that some major Western powers pushed the situation to the brink of an all-out war and direct and actual confrontation between the shah's Iran and Iraq in 1974 and 1975. At the time the shah's Iran and the West found that the Iranian opposition inside was growing and they also realised that a war would possibly increase the Soviet chances in the region thus leading to an increase of chances for the opposition, with other dangerous possibilities in Iran. They also realised that it was impossible to overthrow the revolution in Iraq in the manner they imagined. Thus, things took a diffferent course and the Algiers agreement was signed between Iraq and Iran in 1975. The stooges' insurgency in the north of Iraq nurtured by shah's Iran and the Zionists collapsed.

What we have said had to be mentioned as a background so as to go into other aspects of this issue. From this it is clear that the war had to break out not only because of the ambitions of the Iranians or their aggressive nature but also because of the intentions, ambitions, calculations and interests of other forces, some of whom are in the region, and others are outside it. The direct factor in triggering of the war, that is Iran, has been assisted by indirect factors. Hence, the desire to wage war was not regional but international when acts and intentions in any region are backed by international intentions and actions the result cannot be resisted but by the Almighty.

Although we have referred to Iran and part of the international situation and involvements with regard to the war, we now refer to the situation in the Arab nation as this nation is the most important part of this region.

The Al-Sadat visit to Jerusalem and the ensuing events was the greatest setback faced by the Arabs after the June 1967 defeat not only as an official reconciliation with an entity seen by the Arabs as an entity based on expansionism, aggression and usurpation planted in the Arab homeland, but also because this reconciliation took a method of treason. It was intended to isolate Egypt from the Arab world, drift her away from her national sphere which gives her certain power, vitality and capability. A country like Egypt known for its resources, size and role throughout history reneging on its national (Arab) role would surely weaken its influence on the regional and international level. This also would have a negative impact on its national resources despite claims put forth by some who used to make exaggerations and allegations.

All decent Arabs realised that the conspiracy went far beyond these lines to weaken any form of Arab power and inclination for independence and progress. It was so planned that the Arabs should submit by a belief own will and that their own will would not enable them to determine their own destiny. Evidence of this claim was offered in the analysis that the Arabs' destiny was not determined as it should have been throughout Arab-Zionist conflict from 1948 up to that moment: The most dangerous implication lies not only in the long-term effect but also in the direct and closer impact. These include frustration among the Arab people and rulers and a state of division following hesitation to a position of acceptance or rejection. And since support would not achieve Arab concensus, besides its being unacceptable in light of the well-known considerations, rejection would achieve Arab [unity] only [and] give Arabs a certain extent of the preconditions for redressing the balance and checking depression and collapse.

Hence, we can see the profound effect of the Baghdad Arab summit of 1978 and resolutions, although the resolutions taken at the Baghdad summit came about with a view to realising these objectives in legitimate defence of principles as well as in legitimate self-defence. The Baghdad summit did not attempt to weaken any other Arab country. Rather, it showed that the Arabs rejected the conspiracy and were united, at least in the summit which brought them together. Some Arabs like other, non-Arab

parties, viewed Iraq's pre-summit activity as something which could affect the calculations of balance in regional or local security which is not based on good intentions or good relations with the Arabs but rather on fear from the Arabs' interference in internal affairs on inter-Arab aggression. Regional influence had often come through this way rather than through sound fraternal relations based on cooperation, wisdom, sacrifice and human example to be looked at with esteem.

Therefore, all Iraq's appeals for fraternal relations between the Arabs based on solidarity and non-aggression including the items stated in the national declaration of February, 1980 could not make some Arabs modify their calculations by which they saw Iraq's capability as a factor upsetting the balance based on Arabs' division and discord. And so we used to hear even before this stage that discord between Iraq and Syria or between Syria and Egypt or between Iraq and Saudi Arabia or between Saudi Arabia and Syria, for instance, was a favorable and required state which would only be realised through conflict, division and suspicions.

Khomeynism assumed power in Iran in such Arab and international conditions. It brought with it all the complexes of history and expansionist ambitions promoted by Iran throughout the past including the shah's regime which occupied Arab islands in the Arab Gulf, Abu Musa and greater and lesser Tunb as, later regarded by the Khomeyni regime as an Iranian gain which could not be abandoned.

Khomeynism assumed power while the Arabs' dress was full of holes. This was coupled with jumps in oil revenues leading to social, financial and administrative corruption. So the new conditions in Iran led to a real panic in the Arab world, particularly in regimes ignorant of what destiny had in store for them within the ranks of their own peoples or because they had not been prepared to receive such conditions as those which surfaced in Iran. It is also because none of the Arabs, apart from Iraq, was able to confront the new conditions in Iran. Similarly, none of the other countries in the region apart from Iran would be able to tame the Iraqi model or destroy it.

In light of all these above-mentioned regional and international factors as well as of the new Iranian regime's ambitions and stupid conviction that it could defeat Ba'thist Iraq as it did with the shah's regime, no serious voice rose in the Arab world or in the world at large against Iranian attack on Iraq whether that which took place in early September 1980 or before, as demonstrated by a series of attempts of aggression on land, in the air and on the sea. In fact, many parties nourished Iranian expansionism giving the Iranians a soft picture of the possibility of achieving their intentions and so the war broke out.

The war has therefore come as a result of all these factors as a whole and these factors transcend the region to the international situation and bypass the efforts of the small powers to involve the intentions of the superpowers. However, when will this war end?

Before saying when and how the war will end, we must say that the war will end when its direct parties decide to do so. The direct parties involved are Iraq and Iran. War could break out even without prior intentions when the parties involved find no other means of relations but war to achieve their objectives. A war erupting is a result of its parties' own will only [and] cannot be caused by miscalculation, that is when the rulers commit an error in this direction but also when the regional, internal and international situation can attract these rulers to committing such an error. This includes immaturity on the part of the regime and its people.

Regardless of the arrogance and obduracy of the Iranians, the growing opposition to the war inside Iran and the way the Iranians behave in the warfront, besides many other factors, make as certain that the Iranian regime and a major part of Iranian peoples have now realised that they committed a serious mistake when they had imagined that the government in Iraq could be compared to the shah's regime. They thought that they could win over the Iraqi people in the same way as they did with the peoples of Iran. The international conditions which allowed their aggression could not obviously allow them to realise all their dreams. However what matters in all this is that Iraq proved impregnable to Iranian rulers' ambitions and alliances and that these rulers have no other way as long as the war goes on but sustain inevitable losses, which pitted against some dreams, even at best, would not be worth it.

This analysis is common to all Iranian rulers including Khomeyni himself, though none of these rulers has discussed it with the other, because of the nature of their regime which does not permit this now, each of these rulers lives with these convictions and keeps them to himself. Khomeyni's involvement in the American and Zionist conspiracy, though he never thought that its disclosure would pose a historic rather than temporary harm, is only one aspect of his feeling of failure to realise his declared ambitions and evil.

Inside Iran, the factors leading to an end to the war are seriously ripening and an official declaration to this effect might take a dramatic, unconventional and unexpected form.

When we say that direct factors related to the parties to a dispute are the ones which lead to developing the dispute into a war, we must not forget that regional and international conditions help the factors of dispute to grow to a level making war as the only solution. The developments of these factors and reasons in a direction against the war helps the parties concerned to hesitate in or refrain from, going to war. As long as it is so the growth of regional political trends and their influential parties along anti-war lines as well as the development of international politics in this direction (apart from the policy of Zionism and its entity in Palestine) would seriously help bring about an end to the war. Regardless of the analysis we have put forth about circumstances and intentions, we find that serious tendencies for ending the war are growing on regional and international levels albeit sometimes slowly or unsteadily, indeed steps forward are increasing to tilt the balance against the steps backwards. Many Arabs have realised that Iraq's power should not be frittered away in any kind of conspiracy because they are sure to incur some harm compared with other possibilities and suspicions which Iraq's policy before and during the war proved unfounded.

They have also become aware that keeping an eye for the future in the light of possibilities would not rule out action to avoid

falling prey to the dangers of the present and the threats involved on international and regional level. The superpowers, or a major number of them, have also realized that the game of prolonging the war might not lead to what they wish. It might even involve certain surprises with reverse impact not only on the tactical level but on the strategic level which goes far beyond the region.

Such possibilities might involve a major risk that is what lies in wait for Iran itself as a result of the continuation of the war and the calculations of conflict between the East and West and its effects and dangers, in the light of these factors as well as the fact that oil market prices and volume of production are now relatively stable, that ambitions of the arms dealers were met since the major weight of the need for arms is gone. That the abilities of both Iran and Iraq to buy arms and honour their financial commitments after the end of the war would be better than they are now.

In the light of all this we can view the future of the war and when it will end.

At any rate, we should watch all developments in the Arab world and the world at large in accordance with this analysis and to suspect any attempt to divide the war and the security of the region.

We should also reject with vigour and awareness any decision not in keeping with the five principles we have declared as an irrevocable way to end the war, until this war comes to end with victory and glory for the Iraqis and honest Arabs, God willing.

Peres, Shamir Defend Role in Iran-Contra Affair

TA140758 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 14 Jul 87 p 2

[Text] Foreign Minister Peres said yesterday that "everyone involved in the Iran-Contra affair knew more than they admitted to knowing about the transfer of funds to the contras, and attempted to lay the blame on Lt. Col. Oliver North." Speaking at Bar-Ilan University, Peres said: "The Americans turned to us for help on releasing hostages held in Iran, and after their help with the Ethiopian Jews, we were glad to be of assistance. "We didn't do it for money; and any talk about funds via Israel to the contras is nonsense." [punctuation as published]

In Nazareth, Prime Minister Shamir said that Israel's reputation in the U.S. was unharmed by North's testimony before Senate investigators.

Israel's role in selling weapons to Iran was done "with the best intentions and with full cooperation with the U.S. authorities. I don't think there was anything done by Israel against the interests of the U.S.," Shamir reiterated.

Soviets Make 'New Important' Demands on Conference

TA140450 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0405 GMT 14 Jul 87

[Report by political correspondent 'Oded Ben-'Ami]

[Text] Additional reports on the Murphy-Polyakov meeting reached Jerusalem yesterday, outlining the Soviet position on the international conference. The Soviets are making several new, important demands. They are demanding that the United States and Israel agree to the Palestinians' right to self-determination even before the conference begins. In addition, the Soviets are demanding that Israel publicize its interpretation of UN Security Council Resolution 242. This will provide the Soviets with a basis for a discussion on the Palestinian problem, as well as on the border issue. On both these issues the Soviets are demanding a general debate; that is, in the conference plenum. According to Deputy Foreign Minister Polyakov, the superpowers have the authority to discuss the Palestinian problem, the issue of borders and security, and the economic issue.

The feeling in Jerusalem in the wake of the Soviet demands and in view of their nature is that Moscow is in no hurry with regard to the conference. Contrary to statements that 1987 is the year of peace, it appears that the Soviets actually prefer the following year — 1988 — perhaps because it is an election year in the United States and it is likely that the Americans will be less available and under more pressure to bargain with the Soviets during an election year.

The Soviets are also not letting up on the issue of the preparatory conference, in which they are demanding that the discussion of as many issues as possible be concluded. One should remember that the preparatory conference would include the participation of the permanent members of the Security Council, but not necessarily the Middle East sides.

One more point: During the talks in Geneva, the Americans raised the issue of Soviet Jewry. The Soviets replied that at this stage there is no room for extensive changes in the policy toward the Jews because of the problems with other minority groups in the Soviet Union.

Reportage on Soviet Consular Delegation Visit

Peres' Adviser Comments

TA131610 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1400 GMT 13 Jul 87

[Telephone interview with Nimrod Novik, Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres' policy adviser, by Dan Shilon and Goni Savir — live]

[Text] [Shilon] Good evening. Are you of the opinion that the importance of the Soviet consular delegation's visit to Israel should not be exaggerated?

[Novik] Yes, definitely. On the one hand, the visit signifies a small step forward; on the other hand, as said, it is a small step, within the parameters that the delegation members have defined for themselves and set at their own pace. This is how we are relating to the delegation.

[Savir] The delegation's importance should not be overrated, but should we have gone so far as to not send even a low-level Foreign Ministry representative to receive them?

[Novik] I do not think that it is normal procedure for a Foreign Ministry representative to welcome every person who arrives in Israel. We want the dynamics of their activity to be decided by themselves. Thus, we hope that when the time comes and our delegation visits the Soviet Union, it will decide the dynamics of its activity. We will be happy to offer our services, and the Foreign Ministry will do so, although only at their request, according to their needs, and in accordance with the mandate they possess.

[Shilon] Israel had demanded reciprocity on delegation visits. Have we foregone this demand?

[Novik] No. During the meeting of the ministerial committee headed by the prime minister and in which Mr Peres participated, it was decided that Israel would agree to issue visas to the delegation with the understanding that when Israel decides to send a similar delegation to the Soviet Union, the Soviets will agree. When the Soviets asked questions about the visas, it was made clear to them that this was what Israel expected, and it is still believed that when Israel decides to send a delegation there, the Soviet Union will accede.

[Shilon] However, we have not received an authorized reply on this matter.

[Novik] We have not received an authorized answer, but once again, it is believed that if it is clear to the Soviets that the visas were issued with such an assumption and they have not come

along and said: Gentlemen, this is out of the question — it can be assumed that at the right time this will be the case.

[Shilon] Silence gives consent?

[Novik] More than that. You and others have reported that today the dialogue between Moscow and Jerusalem has been perhaps a little more significant, and therefore there might be developments even more interesting than the consular delegation.

[Shilon] Are you hinting here at something?

[Novik] I am not hinting; you reported this yesterday and repeated it today.

[Shilon] But you are repeating this now, too.

[Novik] Yes, certainly, it is not a hint. I am simply referring to a matter that is on the agenda; namely, to the message that arrived both directly and indirectly from Moscow stating that in the next few weeks they intend to renew dialogue at the political level. A consular-level visit is just that, while one by the political level is something else and would deal with other subjects. Thus I assume that the two complement each other.

[Shilon] Thank you very much, Nimrod Novik, the foreign minister's policy adviser.

Peres Meeting Only at Request

TA131742 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English
1700 GMT 13 Jul 87

[Text] Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres, speaking to reporters in Kefar Shalem, said he would consider meeting with Soviet diplomats now in Israel only if they requested such a meeting.

[Begin Peres recording] Maybe I shall meet them, but generally the Soviet Union has announced that this is a consulate-level delegation, that they come here just to have a look at their property. And I don't see any reason why to inflate the importance of this delegation. They will meet with related officials in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs; I mean they will be treated with courtesy, but without exaggeration. [end recording]

Delegation Visits Jerusalem

TA131728 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English
1700 GMT 13 Jul 87

[Text] A Soviet consular delegation, which arrived in Israel last night, visited Jerusalem today. The delegation members held talks with Moscow patriarch representatives at the Russian Orthodox mission. Although this is the first official visit by Soviet diplomats since relations between the two countries were broken off in 1967, Israeli officials are playing down the significance of the consular delegation.

The delegation is headed by the deputy director of the Soviet Foreign Ministry's Consular Department, Yevgeniy Antipov. Among its members are Yuriy Plikhin, one of the Soviet diplomats who took part in the first round of contacts between Soviet and Israeli officials at Helsinki last August. A representative of the Soviet Foreign Ministry's Middle East Department is also in the delegation.

The Soviet officials are officially here to inspect Russian property owned by the Orthodox Church in Israel and to meet with Soviet citizens living here.

Reporter Alan Ben-'Ami spoke with Yevgeniy Antipov about their mission:

[Begin recording] [Ben-'Amir] Do you intend to request any discussions at all with any of the Israeli officials or ministers?

[Antipov] We have very limited tasks here: To serve the Soviet citizens permanently living in Israel, and then to make an inventory of the Soviet property, and that's all.

[Ben-'Ami] You don't intend to look into the question of the peace conference, the international peace conference, or diplomatic relations between Israel and Russia?

[Antipov] No, no. We don't have any political tasks.

[Ben-'Ami] What would be the role of an international peace conference, particularly of those members not directly involved with the Middle East conflict?

[Antipov] You know, all these countries are the permanent members of the Security Council, and if we are saying the issue of the conference should be under the auspices of the United Nations, certainly their roles also should be taken into consideration.

[Ben-'Ami] Would it be accepted, though, that the conference would not be able to impose any solutions or to veto any agreements reached between the sides directly involved?

[Antipov] I believe it is too early to speak about it, but certainly if something will be imposed on the conference, it won't last long, you know. [end recording]

Interview With USSR's Antipov

TA140617 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew
0500 GMT 14 Jul 87

[Telephone interview with Yevgeniy Antipov, deputy director of the Soviet Foreign Ministry Consular Department, by Ilana Dayan; the interview is conducted in English with interviewer translating each question and answer into Hebrew — live]

[Text] [Dayan] Good morning, Mr Antipov.

[Antipov] Good morning.

[Dayan] Welcome to Israel.

[Antipov] Thank you.

[Dayan] Would you please tell us what are you looking for in Israel, because we have all sorts of ideas.

[Antipov] You know, we are a group of Soviet consular workers. We came here with two tasks to fulfill. The first is to make an assessment of the Soviet property in Israel, and the second one is to document the Soviet citizens living permanently in Israel.

[Dayan] Mr Antipov, I must ask you: Is that all? You are talking politics; you are talking about an international conference and you are talking maybe about diplomatic relations with Israel. After all, you could have just sent a clerk to find the property of the Soviet state in Israel.

[Antipov] You know, we have only these two limited tasks to fulfill here in Israel. To speak of any political tasks would be speculation.

[Dayan] And you wouldn't make such speculations.

[Antipov] No.

[Dayan] You wouldn't be a partner to such speculation?

[Antipov] No, I wouldn't.

[Dayan] We heard our foreign minister and prime minister say that they are not going to initiate any kind of meeting with you. Would you be interested in a meeting with Mr Peres or Mr Shamir?

[Antipov] You know, if we are invited to have any meetings, certainly as guests we would agree to those meetings.

[Dayan] But you are not going to initiate any kind of meeting?

[Antipov] You know, we are guests here.

[Dayan] Mr Antipov, we are talking about a kind of advancement in our relations with Moscow; you have been talking about glasnost for over 2 years. Would you say that establishing or renewing diplomatic relations between Israel and the Soviet Union nowadays are closer than they ever were before?

[Antipov] You know, the position of the Soviet Union is quite clear and it was widely spread by the Soviet press and the Soviet statesmen. It is the following: The normalization of the situation in the Middle East should come first. It could be achieved through an international conference with the participation of all the parties concerned and the five permanent members of the Security Council of the United Nations.

[Dayan] Including the PLO, Mr Antipov?

[Antipov] Certainly. It is an interested party and it represents the Palestinian people.

[Dayan] You know, Mr Antipov, we are talking about another condition. We are talking about Soviet Jews who want to come to Israel, who want to get out of the Soviet Union. Yuliy Edelshtein came here yesterday after years of wanting to come to Israel. Would you say that is a new trend in the Soviet Union, to let Soviet Jewry out?

[Antipov] You know, it is not a new trend. All these years the Soviet Jews who wanted to leave the Soviet Union did that, but the number was different. You know, you can't plan beforehand how many people want to make a request to leave the Soviet Union. But all these years, those people who wanted to leave the Soviet Union did so.

[Dayan] Maybe I don't understand you corre[illegible]ould you say every Jew who wants to get out of the Soviet [illegible]on, who wants to come to Israel, who wants to go anywhere else in the world can do so, including Ida Nudel?

[Antipov] You know, there are also circumstances that don't permit some people, not only Jewish people but also some other nationalities, to leave the Soviet Union. It pertains to state security and some other reasons. But, if there are no obstacles, the people wishing to leave the Soviet Union can do so freely.

[Dayan] Mr Antipov, how do you find Israel after 24 hours?

[Antipov] It is difficult to say, but at first glance it is a beautiful country.

[Dayan] And the people?

[Antipov] And the people, I met only correspondents.

[Dayan] No wonder. Is that the way you expected to find us?

[Antipov] You know, I think we will stay here a little bit longer, maybe for about 3 months, and we will have a chance to meet the people.

[Dayan] You don't have a plan to stay for good.

[Antipov] I am looking forward to seeing my family.

[Dayan] Mr Antipov, thank you very much and have a nice time here in Israel.

[Antipov] Thank you.

Comments on Reciprocity

TA140743 Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT in Hebrew 14 Jul 87 pp 1, 11

[Report by Roni Shaqed]

[Excerpt] "There is nothing to discuss regarding a visit to the Soviet Union by an Israeli delegation because there are no Israeli citizens living there and the Israeli Government has no property there." This was said yesterday by Yevgeniy Antipov, the head of the Soviet delegation that has arrived for a visit to Israel.

The official task of the delegation which arrived on Sunday night by air from Larnaca, Cyprus, is to examine the situation of Soviet citizens living in Israel and to review Soviet property in Israel.

Antipov said that "there is no room to interpret the delegation's arrival in Israel as a step toward the establishment of diplomatic relations between the USSR and Israel." Despite this, commentators see the delegation's arrival as part of a Soviet attempt to preserve low-level relations with Israel toward the possible establishment of an international conference on peace in our region. The commentators also believe that the delegation's arrival constitutes the high point — to date — of a process of rapprochement between the two countries. [passage omitted]

Delegation Holds First Meeting

TA140920 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
0900 GMT 14 Jul 87

[Text] Yevgeniy Antipov, the head of the Soviet consular delegation visiting Israel, says that the principle of reciprocity, which requires that an Israeli delegation also visit Moscow, does not pertain in this case because Israel has neither citizens nor property in the Soviet Union. Our political correspondent 'Oded Ben-'Ami reports that Antipov made these remarks upon emerging from a meeting with members of the Foreign Ministry's Consular Affairs Division in Jerusalem. Ya'aqov Avi'ad, director of the Consular Affairs Division, said that the Russians had asked for information in the consular field only. According to him, the meeting was warm and cordial. During the session, a group of Soviet immigrants including Ilana Friedman, Ida Nudel's sister, demonstrated outside the Foreign Ministry. The demonstrators called for the release of Ida Nudel and, when tempers flared, the police were forced to close the gates to the Foreign Ministry.

USSR 'Presumably' To Approve Visa Request

TA141617 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
1600 GMT 14 Jul 87

[Text] Foreign Ministry officials said this evening that if Israel makes an official request for Soviet visas for a consular delegation, it would presumably receive them. This has been reported by our political correspondent 'Oded Ben-'Ami. The officials were thus reacting to an announcement by the Moscow Foreign Ministry spokesman that the Soviet Union would not allow an Israeli consular delegation to visit because there are no Israeli citizens in the Soviet Union and Israel has no property in the Soviet Union. The head of the Soviet delegation explained in Jerusalem today that according to Soviet law, no citizen may have dual citizenship. The Soviet authorities consequently do not recognize the Israeli citizenship conveyed upon approximately 800 Soviet citizens.

Direct Flights 'Reportedly' Slated For Soviet Jews

TA140452 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English
0400 GMT 14 Jul 87

[Text] Soviet Jews emigrating to Israel will reportedly begin arriving by direct flights from Romania as of this week. The flights will skirt the Vienna transit point where many Jews have dropped out in favor of settling in the West. Voice of Israel reporter Avraham Ben-Melekh says former prisoners of Zion Ya'aqov Levine and Marc Nepomnyashchiy of Odessa are slated to arrive in Israel this week directly from Bucharest. The two have still not left the Soviet Union. There is also a measure of doubt as to whether this is indeed a new Soviet policy, or whether Moscow has decided on the move in local cases only, owing to Bucharest's proximity to cities like Odessa.

Moscow Stops Jamming Hebrew Broadcasts to USSR

TA140457 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English
0400 GMT 14 Jul 87

[Text] Coincident with the arrival of the Soviet consular delegation yesterday is Moscow's decision to stop jamming Voice of Israel's Hebrew-language broadcasts to the Soviet Union. The Soviets have interfered with the broadcasts since 1972. Hebrew University Sovietologist Mikha'ela Gursky believes the move may amount to part of an overall new policy. The Voice of Israel's Russian, Georgian, and Bukharan transmission are still being jammed.

Editorial Calls for 'Normalization' With USSR

TA140803 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English
14 Jul 87 p 10

[Editorial: "A Premature Portent"]

[Text] Although their arrival had been expected sometime this week, the members of the Soviet consular mission to Israel — the first official mission from Moscow in over 20 years — were almost entirely undetected when they disembarked from the Austrian Airlines plane that brought them here from Vienna. All, or nearly all, eyes at the airport were turned on another passenger arriving on the same flight, former prisoner of Zion and longtime refusenik Yuliy Edelshtein.

It would be comforting to see in this more-or-less fortuitous conjunction a portent of a new era in Israeli-Soviet relations. But that would be premature.

The Soviet consular mission need not confine itself strictly to matters of Russian Church property, which was to have been its original brief. But the scope of its authority appears to exclude political matters. The Israeli-Soviet dialogue, nipped in the bud in Helsinki early last year, is now believed set to resume elsewhere within a few weeks, at a higher level; and there is no telling how it will now proceed.

The arrival of the consular mission is nevertheless a sign of Soviet acknowledgment that glasnost warrants a change in the Kremlin's stance on Israel, too, while Israel's withdrawal of the original condition of prompt reciprocity — in other words, an exchange of missions — suggests willingness to make haste slowly in that direction.

Progress, however, there must be, and not on the formal level alone. Normalization between Moscow and Jerusalem — yes, Jerusalem, not Tel Aviv — cannot be made dependent on Jerusalem modifying its national policies to suit Moscow's taste. And Israel's minimal demand for the resumption of large-scale Jewish

emigration from the Soviet Union will not be met by getting rid, as it were, of a few thousand refuseniks.

Israel for its part must at the same time assimilate the simple fact — which at least half its government so far apparently has not done — that there is a price tag attached to the fulfilment of its own just demands on the Soviet Union.

Shamir Discusses 'Abd al-Majid, Soviet Visits, Lavi
TA131600 Tel Aviv Educational Television in Hebrew 1400 GMT 13 Jul 87

[Interview with Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir by Rafi Reshef on the "New Evening" Program conducted in the studio — live]

[Excerpt][Passage omitted][Reshef] The Soviet delegation is now visiting our country and the Egyptian foreign minister is slated to arrive in Israel next week. Even though it may not be the official goal of the Egyptian minister's visit, do you have any problem, Mr Shamir, with the fact that in one way or another the momentum of the international conference is continuing, contrary to your position?

[Shamir] The two things you have mentioned have nothing to do with the international conference. As for the Soviet consular delegation, this is a Soviet initiative and we were not opposed to its arrival. As for the Egyptian foreign minister's visit, I myself invited him a year ago when I saw him at the UN headquarters in New York. I invited him to visit Israel and was sorry he tarried in doing so. I would be very glad to meet with him and discuss Israeli-Egyptian relations, chances for peace, and the situation in the region. I am surely satisfied about his visit.

[Reshef] Do you have any problem with the fact that at the same time the vice prime minister will probably discuss with him those matters he considers more pressing?

[Shamir] As long as the government lasts in its present composition, it is clear that the Israeli foreign minister will meet with the Egyptian foreign minister.

[Reshef] Are you going to meet with the Soviet delegation currently visiting Israel?

[Shamir] I do not think so, but we will see. I do not yet know anything about its activity here, but we will see.

[Reshef] In other words, if they ask for a meeting with you, you will not reject this outright, will you?

[Shamir] Well, we will see. I would not commit myself to anything in advance.

[Reshef] Let us move on to another subject with your permission, Mr Shamir. We heard that Yitzhaq Rabin and Moshe Nisim have presented you with a plan to cancel the Lavi project. Are you inclined to adopt this plan?

[Shamir] No, I do not think I will adopt this plan. As is known, I am convinced we should continue to develop and produce the Lavi. I believe a special effort must be made to solve the financial and economic problems involved in this important issue. [passage omitted]

Tamir Returns; Comments on 'Abd al-Majid Visit
TA140713 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 0500 GMT 14 Jul 87

[Text] Foreign Ministry Director General Avraham Tamir returned from Cairo last night with a date for the Egyptian foreign minister's visit to Israel. Our correspondent Yasmin Qeyni was at Ben-Gurion Airport and heard from him about the goal of this visit.

[Begin recording] [Tamir] The goal of the visit is first and foremost to reciprocate. This visit will have, let us say, four parts. One part involves meetings with the prime minister, the foreign minister, and the president. Many foreign ministers from all over the world have visited Israel; why should Egypt be any different? The foreign minister of the Netherlands and other foreign ministers were here and made comments about an international conference. As far as I can recall, almost all supported this idea.

[Qeyni] Will he also meet with Palestinian figures?

[Tamir] Certainly, just as every foreign minister who comes to the State of Israel can meet with Palestinian personalities.

[Qeyni] Shamir has claimed that it was he who invited the Egyptian foreign minister to Israel. Is this correct?

[Tamir] Well, I cannot contradict him. The starting point for my assignment was the agreement in Geneva with President Mubarak, at Shim'on Peres' request, that the Egyptian foreign minister come here on a reciprocal visit. In fact, this was not the first request; Shim'on Peres extended this invitation at the meeting in February. The idea was approved in principle, and so I went to Egypt at this time to finalize a date.

[Qeyni] One last question, sir: Do you have or could you tell us details about the Egyptian foreign minister's talks with Husayn in London?

[Tamir] I assume he discussed the peace issue with Husayn in London. After all, he wanted to see that the momentum of the process is increasing. Indeed, it is not dwindling; it is increasing. The intensity of the momentum is stronger than those who are trying to halt it. [end recording]

Colombian, Marshall Islands Ministers Arrive
TA130955 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 13 Jul 87 p 2

[Text] Tel Aviv — Colombia's defence minister, Gen. Rafael Samudio Molina, arrived in Israel last night for a four-day official visit as guest of his Israeli counterpart, Yitzhaq Rabin.

Samudio Molina, who is accompanied by the commander of the Colombian Air Force, Gen Gilberto Franco, is due to visit IDF

units and defence industries.

According to foreign reports, Colombia has been buying military equipment from Israel for years, but a well-placed source told *The Jerusalem Post* he did not expect the minister to conclude any new agreements during his stay.

Marshall Islands' Foreign Minister Charles Dominick also arrived in Israel last night for a five-day visit.

Knesset Rejects No-Confidence Motions From Left

TA131754 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 13 Jul 87

[Text] The Knesset has just rejected five motions of no-confidence from the left-wing opposition parties. They condemned Prime Minister Shamir for supporting the bill to amnesty the Jewish underground contrary to the position of the justice minister. Most of the Labor-Alignment members were absent from the Chamber during the vote. Jack Katzenell reports:

[Begin recording] [Katzenell] Four left-wing opposition parties and Shinuy accused the prime minister of making a mockery of the democratic process when he supported a bill which was rejected by Justice Minister Avraham Sharir on constitutional grounds. Some of the opposition speakers recalled Shamir's past career in the pre-state underground, the most hard-line of the underground groups, LEHI [Fighters for Israel's Liberty], and charged that he is still sympathetic to Jewish terrorists provided their acts are directed against Arabs. Several Likud members voted against the amnesty bill, also on constitutional grounds, but that does not mean they are not in favor of the amnesty, provided it is granted in accordance with the law. The prevailing view in the Likud is that the Jewish terrorists are less culpable than the PLO, as I heard from the Likud's Ehud Olmert.

[Olmert] If you want me to compare the Jewish underground to an Arab terrorist, then I would say yes, there is definitely in my mind a difference between an Arab terrorist and a Jewish terrorist because the Jewish terrorist definitely is a killer, but the Jewish terrorist does not want to destroy the State of Israel.

[Katzenell] The Labor-Alignment caucus decided to stay away from the Chamber during the vote. In this way they expressed their disapproval of the prime minister's action without giving Shamir a pretext for dismissing the Labor Cabinet ministers. However, Labor's absence from a no-confidence vote is seen as another step towards the disintegration of the national unity government. [end recording]

Gap on Lavi Allocation Narrows to $100 Million

TA140817 Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew 14 Jul 87 p 1

[Report by Arye Arad]

[Text] Yesterday, in reply to a question by the *Davar* correspondent, a source close to the negotiations said that the gap between the Prime Minister's Office and Israel Aircraft Industries regarding the allocation for the continuation of the Lavi project's budget now amounts to some $100 million. The Prime Minister's Office now estimates that this gap can be bridged, but defense and economic sources doubt this.

Yesterday, Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir rejected out of hand the position by Ministers Rabin and Nisim favoring an immediate stop to the project. At the same time, the prime minister wants to reach an agreement on this with Ministers Peres and Rabin at least, and he is mainly concerned about the hints that the vice prime minister might withdraw his support for the Lavi under the influence of the defense minister.

U.S. Fears of Soviet Tank Shield 'Exaggerated'

TA141004 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 14 Jul 87 p 9

[Report by Yosef Walter]

[Excerpts] The Soviets have installed a "reactive armor" — an Israeli invention developed for defense against antitank missiles — in many of their tanks. To a certain extent this fact reduces the efficiency of some of the antitank weapons in NATO's possession, but it cannot substantively alter the interbloc arms balance. This was stated by a senior military source in reaction to reports published yesterday in *The New York Times* which said the Soviet Union has stolen an Israeli invention for protecting tanks. [passage omitted]

The invention first appeared in the Lebanon war. It fell into Soviet hands when two M-60 IDF tanks were captured by Syria, and Damascus rushed to transfer this technology — previously unknown in the Eastern world — to the Soviets. The Soviet Union, it transpires, hurried to copy the invention and fitted the modern shielding on many of its Army's tanks. This report aroused fears among U.S. experts, who believe the tactical balance between the superpowers has been significantly altered in favor of the Soviets in the wake of the installation of this modern shielding device.

The senior military source tends not to accept the Americans' exaggerated fears, although he does stress that the fact that the Soviets have shielded many of their tanks with the Israeli invention should not be denigrated. "When tanks are provided with additional shielding, some antitank weapons lose some of their efficiency," the military source said. "There is no shielding device that completely counters the antitank weapons.

"The invention does not represent the most up-to-date technology being implemented in the modern Soviet T-80 tank. This is another generation of tanks with a genuine leap forward in shielding devices. It therefore follows that the Soviets have not suddenly discovered the special shielding. They have the necessary technology."

Egypt Considers Using Expertise in Power Plants

TA101523 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 10 Jul 87 p A5

[Report by Mikha'el Gerti]

[Text] The Egyptian Electricity Company is interested in making use of the experience accumulated in Israel in the use of coal in power plants for the purpose of setting up the first Egyptian power plant that will be heated by coal. This station will probably be built in the Sinai peninsula. This was said yesterday by Muhammad Kamal Hasan, Egypt's deputy electricity and energy minister, at the end of a tour which he and his accompanying delegation took of the Israeli power plant at Hadera.

Hasan, who is also president of the Electricity Company dealing with the Suez Canal and Sinai area, told Energy and Infrastructure Minister Moshe Shahal that the plan for developing energy resources in the Sinai necessitates cooperation with Egypt's neighbor, Israel — although cooperation is also needed throughout all of Egypt.

The Egyptian delegation, which arrived in Israel on Wednesday, decided to extend its stay here. It will return to Cairo tomorrow after it has visited the Electricity Company's facilities in the south.

The delegation members expressed great interest in the attempts by a company near 'Arad to produce liquid fuel and electric power from oil shale. Dr Muhammad al-Mun'im al-Jazzar, director of research and development at the Egyptian Electricity Company, told *Ha'aretz* that after discovering oil shale deposits in the Sinai and in other places in Egypt, his country is now considering including Israel in the development plans to utilize them.

The Egyptian delegation displayed a great deal of interest in purchasing a solar power station manufactured by the Luz company of Jerusalem. It was decided during contacts between Egypt, the United States, and Israel that initially the Egyptians would purchase, with U.S. aid, a small experimental station with a 120-kilowatt capacity. Now, however, Dr Al-Jazzar is in favor of purchasing a much larger station, "perhaps a 1-megawatt or even a 30-megawatt one such as in California," in light of the fact that such power stations are no longer in the experimental stage and there is no point in setting up a small unit.

According to the members of the Egyptian delegation, the deal can be signed soon if international financing — the source of which would probably be a U.S. agency responsible for assisting development projects — is found.

Energy and Infrastructure Minister Moshe Shahal offered the Egyptians assistance and technical advice on the matter of changing over to coal "as part of the cooperation between neighbors."

Researchers Criticize Navy's Modernization Program

TA140854 Tel Aviv HADASHOT in Hebrew 14 Jul 87 p 1

[Report by Alex Fishman]

[Text] Research by Tel Aviv University's Institute of Strategic Studies severely criticizes the Navy's modernization program. The main criticism relates to the intention to build and acquire Saar-5 missile boats. The research, published recently, is by Reserves Brigadier General Gid'on Raz, former deputy commander of the Navy and a candidate for the post of commander of the Navy, and Dr Ari'el Levita.

According to the authors of the research, there is a basic error in the operational structure of the Navy, with a resulting error in outfitting the Navy for the future. For example, the researchers believe the Navy's operational activities should focus on ranges near the coastline — up to 300 nautical miles from the shore. Boats of the Saar-5 type are intended for activity at ranges that are several times longer. In the opinion of the authors of the research, the great financial investment in the Saar-5 could harm the Navy.

The high cost of the boats will drain most of the Navy's equipment budget for the future, while allowing for the procurement of only a limited number of boats of this model. The loss of boats of the Saar-5 model could lead to a significant reduction in the Corps' strength.

AL-SHIRA' Says Soviet Agent Source of Waite Report

NC140745 Beirut AL-SHIRA' in Arabic 13 Jul 87 p 11

[Text] A Soviet agent gave Iran information about the presence of a microelectronic device in the hair of Anglican envoy Terry Waite, similar to devices worn by U.S. Sixth Fleet pilots. As a result, Waite was searched thoroughly and the device found. Thus, there was no choice but to detain him.

UN's Goulding Meets With Al-Jumayyil, Al-Husayni

NC141003 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0915 GMT 14 Jul 87

[Text] President Shaykh Amin al-Jumayyil received Marrack Goulding, UN under secretary general for special political affairs, at 1000 today. Goulding is touring the area prior to the extension of the UNIFIL mandate in south Lebanon.

After the meeting, Goulding said that the purpose of his visit to Lebanon is to consult with officials before the current UNIFIL mandate expires at the end of July.

He added that he is gathering information on the basis of which he will draft a report containing proposals on the future of UNIFIL for submission to the UN secretary general.

Goulding affirmed that the UN Security Council members will not make any decisions before they have perused the UN secretary general's report.

Replying to a question, Goulding said that additional measures will be taken to protect UNIFIL forces in the south.

Goulding then visited the Chamber of Deputies at 1030 and met with Chamber Speaker Husayn al-Husayni.

Israeli, Lahd Forces Attack UN Targets in South

NC131417 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 13 Jul 87

[Text] In an escalation of their attacks against UNIFIL, the Israeli occupation forces and their Lahd militia agents have fired at a Nepalese UN contingent patrol and swept away a Norwegian contingent checkpoint with one of their tanks. Their provocations have also expanded to an UNTSO [United Nations Truce Supervision Organization] observation post. Guards at the building housing the agent Lahd militia's so-called Middle East television station fired at the post, hitting it with several bullets. No casualties have been reported.

100-Man Israeli Force Surrounds Shab'a in South

NC131756 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 13 Jul 87

[Text] Our correspondent in Hasbayya has reported that the village of Shab'a has been surrounded since this morning, when a Zionist occupation force of 100 soldiers and 15 vehicles commanded by Lieutenant Colonel (Zaftin), the Israeli governor of the eastern sector, raided it. The occupation forces are deploying foot and vehicular patrols in the area and have interrogated the head of the village, as well as some of its other officials.

Our correspondent has also reported that when UNIFIL's Norwegian contingent tried to prevent the raid on Shab'a, the Israeli vehicles forcibly crossed their checkpoint.

Meanwhile, Israeli helicopters flew over Shab'a and the surrounding hills at noon. The Israeli forces have detained vehicles belonging to Shab'a expatriates near the village's western approach. The expatriates were on their way back from Kuwait.

Khalis Reported Unhurt Following Peshawar Explosion

LD140846 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0448 GMT 14 Jul 87

[Text] Kabul, July 13, *Bakhtar* — The central office of one of the Afghan extremist groups was destroyed when a severe explosion occurred in Peshawar city, reports reaching *Bakhtar* indicate.

Muhammad Yunis Khalis, the ring-leader of group who was standing nearby the site of an explosion escaped unhurt and two of his close accomplices sustained severe injuries. Their health conditions have been reported critical.

A few days ago a bomb exploded at the center of Hezb-e Eslami, an extremist grouping, where Gulbuddin, the ring-leader of the group usually stayed there.

Reports says that differences among the ring-leaders of the opposition extremist groups, stationed in Peshawar, have accelerated ever before.

Observers believe that the recent explosions in the extremists centres emanate from these differences and the extremist grouping leaders are resorting to retaliatory actions against each other.

Keshtmand, Delegation Return From Ulaanbaatar

LD131633 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1530 GMT 13 Jul 87

[Excerpt] Comrade Soltan 'Ali Keshtmand, member of the PDPA Central Committee Politburo and chairman of the DRA Council of Ministers, who led a high-ranking delegation to the Mongolian People's Republic at the invitation of that government, arrived home today.

Comrade Keshtmand and his delegation were welcomed at the Kabul airport by Comrade Nur Ahmad Nur, member of the Politburo and secretary of the PDPA Central Committee; Comrade Abdul Wakil, member of the PDPA Central Committee Politburo and minister of foreign affairs; Ghulam Faruq Yaqubi, member of the PDPA Central Committee Politburo and minister of state security; Lieutenant General Nazar Muhammad, candidate member of the PDPA Central Committee Politburo and first deputy chairman of the DRA Council of Ministers; several members of the PDPA Central Committee; the head of the DRA Supreme Court; the vice chairmen and members of the Council of Ministers; the chiefs of the social organizations; Pavel Petrovich Mozhayev, ambassador extraordinary of the USSR to the DRA; and the charge d'affaires of the Mongolian Embassy in Kabul. [passage omitted]

Presidential Polling Ends; Turnout 'Heavy'

BK131313 Delhi Domestic Service in English
1230 GMT 13 Jul 87

[Excerpt] There has been a heavy turnout of voters in the presidential election, which ended at 1700 [1130 GMT] this evening — 707 members voted at Parliament house in the capital. Out of the 776 elected members of Parliament, 48 had sought permission to vote in the state capitals. Eleven members of Parliament belonging to the Bharatiya Janata Party and one Janata Party member stayed away from voting.

Three candidates are in the fray. They are the vice president and Congress-I nominee, Mr R. Venkataraman; the opposition candidate, Justice V.R. Krishna Iyer; and an independent, Mr Mithilesh Kumar.

The prime minister, Mr Rajiv Gandhi, and the Lok Sabha speaker, Mr Bal Ram Jakhar, were among the first to vote. Former union minister, Mr Jagannath Rao, and a Congress-I member from Orissa, Dr Krupasindhu Bhoi, were brought in wheelchairs to exercise their franchise.

The All India Radio correspondent reports that polling started on a brisk note and more than 530 MP's cast their votes in the first 90 minutes.

Reports from state capitals indicate that the polling was 100 percent in Kerala, Nagaland, and Manipur. Polling was also heavy in other states. [Passage omitted]

Editorial Advocates Overcoming Chinese 'Phobias'

BK131456 Delhi INDIAN EXPRESS in English
3 Jul 87 p 6

[Editorial: "The Correct Perspective"]

[Text] At his press conference on Monday, Mr Rajiv Gandhi expressed his doubts about the existence of a Sino-Pak-U.S. axis against this country. This is no surprise. The assumption of such an alignment was really an offshoot of the Asian cold war of the sixties and early seventies. With the end of the Maoist era, it ceased to have such significance as it might have had earlier. The change was reflected in Mr Deng Xiaoping's consistent stress on China's independent foreign policy. India's response took the form of a serious bid to improve relations with China. The attempt initiated by Mrs. Gandhi has continued under Mr Rajiv Gandhi. That New Delhi was no longer inhibited by an apprehension about an anti-Indian collusion between China, Pakistan and the U.S. and saw India-China ties primarily in a bilateral context was implicit in this attempt.

And we must overcome the phobia about Sino-Pak collusion. It is true that Beijing and Islamabad have continued to be on the best of terms. But it does not follow that the Chinese are prompted by an anti-Indian design in maintaining friendly relations with Pakistan. Nor does the fact that they are also selling military hardware to Pakistan of conclusive significance [as published] — they are selling it to many other countries too. Indeed, the Chinese have consistently supported an Indo-Pak detente since about 1980 in sharp contrast to their earlier stance. They have stopped endorsing Pakistan's anti-Indian tirades. The most significant part of the shift in the Chinese policy has been in relation to Kashmir. Earlier, Beijing lost no opportunity of joining Pakistan in calling for a solution of the Kashmir problem on the basis of self-determination. In recent years, the Chinese have scrupulously avoided doing so. They have instead favoured an amicable settlement between India and Pakistan.

The Pakistanis have often shown their sense of disquiet at every move towards a Sino-Indian rapprochement. A telling instance was a mischievous report published by the government-owned *Pakistan Times* in December 1983. The paper claimed that China wanted Gen. Ziaul Haq to be present at a future summit on the India-China border problem. It said that this was necessary because Pakistan and China had already signed an agreement on their border along the Karakoram. The Chinese Embassy in Islamabad promptly denied the report as a fabrication. There are thorny issues to be dealt with in our relations with China, but phobias from the past should not hold us back.

Better Relations Advocated for 'Friendlier China'

BK130946 Delhi THE HINDUSTAN TIMES in English
1 Jul 87 p 9

[Editorial: "China in S. Asia"]

[Text] Chinese premier Zhao Ziyang completed last week a four-day trip to Pakistan, the first country he visited six years ago soon after taking over as Prime Minister. It is not unnatural for him, therefore, to be a trifle sentimental about Pakistan, nor his statement, "our hearts beat in harmony", be dismissed as a routine exercise in public relations. China and Pakistan began to cultivate each other in 1963, sharing a common antipathy towards India and the Soviet Union. Their ties have since been buttressed by strong American goodwill for both. The Beijing-Islamabad partnership might have overcome some of its negative features and Chinese might be making the point that they have a role in South Asia. Policy makers in New Delhi would do well to take it in stride and give up the seige mentality. The newest evidence of growing Chinese interests in South Asia was provided when President Jayewardene sent his education minister to Beijing to enlist China's political support after India's airdropping of relief in Jaffna. China enjoys a massive profile in both Nepal and Bangladesh. President Ershad is scheduled to visit China on July 2 to once again underline the point that Dhaka looks up to Beijing as a major supplier of arms and hopes to account for 10 per cent of the global arms transfers by 1990, as an important source of military hardware for Pakistan and Bangladesh.

In such circumstances, it would be natural for India to be wary about the growing Sino-Pak relations as a collusion against India but a panicky reaction would be of no help to New Delhi which should continue to seek a settlement of the boundary dispute with China. A friendlier China that has resolved the boundary disputes with India and sees good business in trade and commerce with this country is less likely to encourage India's neighbours to blow up minor disputes with New Delhi into major events,

jeopardising co-operation in the subcontinent. While in Islamabad, Premier Zhao expressed China's willingness to work with the South Asian countries to contribute to the maintenance of peace in the region, his hope that the South Asian countries should resolve their differences through peaceful negotiations and treat one another as equals may be construed as a reassurance to countries like Pakistan and Bangladesh where one often hears India being accused as a bully and a hegemonist. Many in New Delhi are likely to take the Chinese Prime Minister's statement amiss and might read meanings in it in view of India's problems with Pakistan and Sri Lanka in view of the growing ties between China and India's neighbours. Nevertheless this should not deter India from working for a better relations with Beijing. And it is just as well that Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi has made known that he is not averse to raising the Sino-Indian dialogue to political level, undeterred by other peripheral factors.

Gandhi's Regional Policy Plays Into Pakistan's Hands

BK121118 Calcutta THE STATESMAN in English 3 Jul 87 p 8

[Editorial: "The General's Mentors"]

[Text] What General Ziaul Haq glossed over when he confidently told an American television network that Pakistan would "not allow India to bully" it "over the bomb" was that he has successfully utilized the Soviet occupation of Afghanistan to pressure the State Department into ignoring the evidence of Pakistan's own nuclear progress. That gullible U.S. viewers may still feel slighted at Pakistan's — or, for that matter, India's — continued refusal to sign the non-proliferation treaty is of less consequence than the fact that a strong lobby in the U.S. Central Command is in favour of giving General Ziaul Haq the formal green signal to proceed with his so-called Islamic bomb. The compromise whereby the terms of the Symington amendment were waived for two years rather than six suggests that there is still some indecision in Washington over how much indulgence is to be shown to General Ziaul Haq. Although Pakistan is just as important as Israel for the USA's strategic planning, there are disturbing signs that it is slowly heading towards most favoured nation status.

Nor is this attributable only to the situation in Afghanistan and Pakistan's strategic location as a jumping board for the mujahidin guerrillas. In addition to the compulsions of Washington's Afghanistan policy, General Ziaul Haq has successfully manoeuvred himself into a position where he is regarded almost as the legitimate heir to the role once played by the Shah of Iran. It is no coincidence, therefore, that the USA agreed to supply Pakistan with the sophisticated AWACS and an increased arms package at a time when it reduced aid to India. Washington is fully aware that there is no guarantee that American weapons will not be used against India and that its encouragement of General Ziaul Haq has led to a dangerous sub-continental arms race. The fact that the State Department has reacted with complete indifference to New Delhi's protests also suggests that Pakistan's eastern borders are also included in its strategic calculations. Despite India's formal commitment to non-alignment and policy of equidistance between the two superpowers, Washington sees Mr Rajiv Gandhi's Government as being still too closely tied to Moscow's apron strings. India's ambivalence on the Afghan question and the continued importance attached to the 1971 Indo-Soviet treaty, underlined by the Prime Minister's current visit to Moscow, help to reinforce this perception.

When Mr Gandhi assumed charge, there were certain unreal expectations in the West that his personal ideological preferences would lead to a certain coolness with Moscow. However, as recent events indicate, the Prime Minister is relying more and more on Mr Gorbachev and his local friends to bail him out of uncomfortable situations, in both domestic and foreign affairs. Mr Gandhi may also have played into General Ziaul Haq's hands by pursuing a regional policy designed to assert India's authority but which has led to a degree of isolation that obliged Mr Gandhi to lean even more on Moscow for support. The shrewd politician that he is, General Ziaul Haq will certainly exploit thisfactor in his bargaining with Washington. With Pakistan clearly enjoying the upper hand, something more imaginative than a mere review of existing nuclear policy is needed if India is to frustrate similar moves to transform the subcontinent into a playground of the superpowers.

Afghan Minister Heads Visiting Delegation

La'eq Holds Press Conference

LD111618 Kuwait KUNA in English 1409 GMT 11 Jul 87

[Text] New Delhi, July 11 (KUNA) — Afghanistan is ready to join hands with all groups, including rebels and guerillas, to end political stalemate in the landlocked country.

Stating this at a press conference, Afghanistan Tribal Affairs Minister Solayman La'eq, said here today that apart from some anti-government forces, "backed by imperialists," most of the Afghan tribal groups have expressed eagerness to return home.

La'eq, who is also a member of the Politbureau of the Central Committee of the People's Committee of Afghanistan, said if Pakistan and Iran had not created obstacles, more than half of the Afghan refugees would have returned to their homes.

There are more than three million Afghan refugees in Pakistan and Iran. They fled from their country following the Soviet intervention.

Solayman La'eq is leading a 22-member delegation to India to see ailing (?Pakistan) leader Khan Abdul Ghaffar Khan, who was admitted to hospital here last week. The Pakistan opposition leader is in a coma and is in a serious condition.

La'eq is carrying a message for Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi from Afghanistan President Najibullah. He said he will deliver the message to the Indian leader when he meets him tomorrow. He appreciated India's support for the process of reconciliation initiated by the Afghan Government to end political instability.

The Afghan minister said that encouraged by the response from various militant groups, the government had decided to extend

by six months the unilateral ceasefire, which is expiring next week. He claimed that 23,000 rebels had returned to their homes and there "is a possibility that about 100,000 more may join the government forces."

Asked whether the Afghan Government would welcome the return of deposed King Zahir Shah for ending the conflict in the region, La'eq said there was no such proposal under the consideration of the government. Afghan Government is not in touch with the ex-king, he said.

Referring to the resumption of Geneva talks, held under the auspices of the United Nations, he said his government had taken all necessary steps to find out political solution to the Afghan problem. It was now for Pakistan to take the initiative.

Meeting With Gandhi

LD130638 Kabul BAKHTAR in English
509 GMT 13 Jul 87

[Text] New Delhi, Jul 12, *Bakhtar* — A *Bakhtar* correspondent reports from New Delhi:

Solayman La'eq, Politburo member of the PDPA Central Committee who is heading an Afghan delegation in India met with Rajiv Gandhi, prime minister of India today.

During the meeting, the head of the Afghan delegation informed the prime minister of India about the policy of national reconciliation.

Touching upon friendly relations between the DRA and India, S. La'eq said that the historic and friendly relations between the two countries have been further expanded and consolidated. "The role played by the peaceful policy of India is of great significance in international spheres, particularly in the region", he said.

The message of goodwill of Najib, general secretary of the PDPA Central Committee, addressed to Rajiv Gandhi was also presented to him during the meeting.

Reciprocally, the prime minister of India, Rajiv Gandhi, expressed support to the policy of PDPA and the state of the DRA.

Emphasizing on traditional and friendly ties which exist between the two countries, Rajiv Gandhi said there are better possibilities for ever-further expansion of these relations.

Solayman La'eq and his member delegation have also visited Abdul Ghaffar Khan, leader of pushtoons, in All India Institute of Medical Sciences.

The report dispatched by our special reporter says that Abdul Ghaffar Khan is in a deep coma and endeavour is continuing to take him out of critical health conditions.

Mohammad Aslam Watanjar, Politburo member of the PDPA CC and minister of communications, 'Abdol Hamid Mohtat, vice-chairman of the Council of Ministers, and Sarwar Yoresh, president of *Bakhtar Information Agency*, were also present during the meeting with Rajiv Gandhi, Indian prime minister.

2 Killed in Gujarat Clashes; Curfew Imposed 12 Jul

BK131610 Delhi Domestic Service in English
1530 GMT 13 Jul 87

[Text] In Gujarat, indefinite curfew has been imposed in Chota Udaypur town in Vadodara District from last night following clashes. According to police, two persons were killed in stabbing incidents and nine others injured during the disturbances. Police opened fire to disperse the violent crowd. However, no one was injured in the firing. Thiry-one persons have been arrested.

Haryana Chief Minister on Punjab Accord, Killings

BK140324 Delhi Domestic Service in English
0240 GMT 14 Jul 87

[Text] The Haryana chief minister, Mr Devilal, has said his government is not against the Punjab accord as a whole but against the clauses which deal with the area and distribution of water between the two states. He was concluding the discussions on the motion of thanks on the governor's address.

Condemning the recent killings of bus passengers near Hissar, he said the administration was able to bring the law and order situation under control.

Sikhs Plan Campaign Against 'Police Repression'

BK120720 Hong Kong AFP in English
0705 GMT 12 Jul 87

[Text] Zirakpur, India, July 12 (AFP) — Sikh leaders are planning a massive campaign to end "government tyranny" in Punjab and bring peace to the troubled northern Indian state, the head priest of Sikhdom's holiest shrine said here. Darshan Singh Ragi, high priest of Amritsar's Golden Temple, said Saturday he was drawing up the campaign in consultation with other Sikh leaders to end what he said were fake "encounters" — gunbattles — staged by Security Forces to eliminate young Sikhs suspected of having links with Sikh separatists.

Mr. Darshan Singh, 47, said the federal government, which administers Punjab directly since the dismissal in May of the moderate Akali Dal government, had let loose "police repression" in the Sikh-dominated state bordering Pakistan.

"Every day eight to 10 Sikhs come to me in Amritsar complaining that their young sons have been taken away by Security Forces, never to be seen again," the priest told *Agence France-Presse* at his farmhouse here, about 10 kilometres (six miles) from the state capital Chandigarh.

Mr. Darshan Singh, widely seen as a major influence over the future course of events in Punjab, said Sikh youths were being picked up at random from their homes as part of "government tyranny" in the state.

Visibly agitated, the priest said the police action had led to feelings of revenge among other Sikhs, making them go underground and swelling the ranks of Sikh militants.

He said a massive campaign against the repression was being planned, but refused to give details. He did not elaborate how it would end the five-year-long Sikh militant campaign for an independent homeland in Punjab called Khalistan.

More than 530 people have died this year alone in separatist violence.

Mr. Darshan Singh said 126 of the victims were suspected Sikh separatists killed in gunbattles with Security Forces. "The genuineness of these encounters has been questioned by the militants," he added.

A number of Sikh politicians have accused police and paramilitary forces of killing young Sikhs in cold blood. Punjab's police chief, Julio Ribeiro, has repeatedly denied the charge.

Mr. Darshan Singh, who became head priest in December, recently castigated Sikh militants for allegedly exploiting the name of the Akal Takht, the supreme seat of Sikhdom which he heads, to forcibly gather funds from moneyed Sikhs and Hindus, who are in a minority in Punjab.

Last week, the short, stocky priest tore down militant posters in the Golden Temple — something which even security men shudder to do.

The shrine, which was stormed by the Army in June 1984, is still a virtual sanctuary for Sikh gunmen, observers said.

But Mr. Darshan Singh denied receiving death threats from the militants, as alleged by Mr. Ribeiro. "All this is government propaganda...by those who want to harm me physically," he said, without elaborating.

The priest, a former cantor of Sikh hymns, also chided Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi for saying the government would not talk with Sikh militants, who have almost eclipsed all Sikh political parties in Punjab, until the violence ended.

"It is like a doctor telling a bedridden patient to get up first before he can be administered medicine," Mr. Darshan Singh said. "Here (in Punjab) the patient needs medicines first before he can get up. The Sikh militants' genuine demands should be accepted before they can return to normal life."

The high priest has refused to issue a religious edict asking Sikhs to desist from violence. "If I appealed to Sikhs alone, it would amount to saying that all Sikhs are terrorists, which is not a fact," he said.

Edicts issued by the Akal Takht are binding upon all Sikhs, who number some 16 million in India. A majority of them live in Punjab.

Private Sector 'Ruled Out' From Defense Production

BK131035 Delhi PATRIOT in English 3 Jul 87 p 6

[By "Our Special Correspondent"]

[Text] Bangalore, June 2 — Defence Minister K C Pant today firmly ruled out the entry of private sector into the area of defence production relating to the major needs of the defence forces. However, he indicated that in some other areas private sector can play a complimentary role to the defence production units.

In an informal chat with newsmen at the venue of the seminar on defence initiatives and spin-offs in communications which he inaugurated earlier, the Defence Minister said there are certain requirements and certain capabilities of both public and private sector while the defence forces of the country would mainly rely on their requirements on the public sector. In certain areas the private sector also can play a role, he added.

He said our aim is to become self-reliant in our defence needs and as our needs grow we may have to entrust certain jobs to the private sector, particularly the non-vital areas. Our major requirements would, however, come only from the public sector, he added.

Mr Pant parried questions about the LCA [Light Combat Aircraft] and AWACS except to say that the LCA project was on schedule and on AWACS he said it is better to keep people guessing about certain things.

The Union Government has written to the West German Government seeking details on the submarine deal in which a kickback of Rs 30 crore was allegedly received, Mr Pant said, adds UNI.

He said the Government was yet to order an inquiry into the alleged pay-offs involved in the purchase of submarines. The Bhatnagar Committee was already looking into all aspects of the deal, he added.

Mr Pant said the much delayed main battle tank (MBT) programme had run into problem following some trouble with diesel engine. The problem was being sorted out.

Defense Minister Outlines Production Goals

BK131047 Delhi PATRIOT in English 5 Jul 87 p 5

[By "Our Special Representative"]

[Text] The Government has identified 50 per cent of items required for the BMP infantry combat vehicle and the T-72 tank which will be produced in the civil sector, Defence Minister K C Pant indicated on Saturday.

About 153 systems and sub-systems will be bulk produced within scheduled delivery periods. Tenders have already been floated for 110 items and supply orders for 26 systems and sub-systems have been placed.

Addressing the two-day conference of senior officers of the Directorate-General of Quality Assurance (formerly Directorate General of Inspection) in New Delhi, the Defence Minister urged them to forge an integrated system of quality assurance of equipment and weapons required for the Armed Forces.

There should be a research and development orientation to their work and not merely inspection so that time frames are foreshortened. An interaction with the Defence Research and Development Organisation, the public sector defence undertakings, the ordnance factories and the civil sector so that the time from conception of a weapons system to bulk production is reduced.

After the design model is formulated the painfully long procedures before indigenous production is started makes the technology outdated and this is the cause of the perpetual gap between the developed countries and India, Mr Pant said.

The promotional role of the Director-General of Quality Assurance is vital if the gap in time is to be eliminated and that is the only way India can hope to end the "chase for technology", he said.

Referring to the fact that spares and components of foreign equipment cost a great deal Mr Pant said that swift indigenisation must be followed by product improvement so that there is continuous upgradation of technology. Otherwise, the country will have to continue seeking new technology from abroad.

The Defence Minister announced that the bar to filling vacancies has been lifted with regard to the Directorate General of Quality Assurance and 300 new posts have been sanctioned to handle the BMP and T-72 tank projects. Before the end of the year computer facilities will be made available.

Minister of State for Defence Shivraj Patil stated emphatically that the resort to the civil sector will not result in retrenchment in the public sector. The public sector has a vital role to play in the frontiers of science and technology where the private sector will not venture because of the high investments and lack of cushion to absorb losses.

He urged the directorate to coordinate its activities with the many laboratories where new technology is being developed to ensure that indigenous production is enhanced and there is no duplication of effort.

Musavi Says U.S.-Flagged Ships Will Be Attacked

OW141347 Tokyo NHK General Television Service in Japanese 1226 GMT 14 Jul 87

[Interview with Iranian Prime Minister Mir Hoseyn Musavi by unidentified NHK reporter in Tehran; date not given -- recorded; reporter speaks in English and Musavi answers in Persian with Japanese translation given in subtitles]

[Text] [Reporter] So far four foreign ships have been damaged by mines in the Persian Gulf. Do you think that the same thing will happen to Kuwaiti ships with American flags?

[Musavi] A number of mines have been laid in the northern part of the Persian Gulf. Therefore, ships navigating in that area are naturally in danger. No ship can ever be safe. We do not choose the means to use against those who threaten Iran's security. We intend to do everything for the defense of our country.

[Reporter] Do you mean to say that you will counterattack the enemy by laying mines?

[Musavi] The mines are already there. The U.S. Navy has noticed them only recently. As long as Iraq continues to attack tankers, even Kuwaiti ships flying the Stars and Stripes will be subject to our attack.

[Reporter] Iran has reportedly installed antiship missiles along the Strait of Hormuz. Is that true? Are the missiles Chinese-made Silkworms?

[Musavi] No, they are not Silkworms. We have developed the missiles independently based on those captured from the Iraqi forces. Iran has used those missiles before. For anti-Iranian propaganda, the United States is exaggerating reports about thesemissiles. However, we have the capability to use missiles in the entire Persian Gulf region at any time.

[Reporter] Five permanent members of the UN Security Council are trying to work out a plan to end the war. Do you see any positive aspects in this plan?

[Musavi] It has been 7 years since the Iran-Iraq war began, but the side responsible for starting the conflict is obvious. If the United Nations actively desires to end this war, it should first remove the pressure of the superpowers' presence. Iran does not pin any hopes on the present UN plan.

2 Italian Engineers Arrested in May Released

LD132057 Rome Domestic Service in Italian 2030 GMT 13 Jul 87

[Text] Alessandro Roversi and Bruno Bellamano, two Italian engineers with an Italian company working in the port of Bandar-e 'Abbas, who were arrested by the Iranians in early May, were freed today in Tehran.

The Italian Foreign Ministry expressed its satisfaction with the positive outcome of this affair.

Commentary Views 'Savage' French Attack on Diplomat

LD131327 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1059 GMT 13 Jul 87

[Excerpts] The savage attack by French police on an Iranian diplomat is the topic of today's second political commentary.

According to the latest reports from Geneva on the most recent actions of the fascist French police against Iranian diplomats, one of our country's officials was severely injured in an attack by the French police and has been hospitalized.

Mohsen Aminzadeh, a diplomat at the Iranian Embassy in France, who was traveling from Geneva, Switzerland to Paris on Saturday afternoon, was assaulted and beaten by the French police in that sector of the Geneva airport considered to be French territory. All his documents were stolen.

Condemning this action by the fascist French police, our country's Foreign Ministry summoned the charge d'affaires of the French Embassy in Tehran and asked for a formal explanation.

The Iranian Foreign Ministry is awaiting a reply so that it can then take the necessary measures.

Commenting on France's recent actions, the Foreign Ministry spokesman said: While such actions against our embassy and diplomats in Paris — which are in violation of the Vienna Convention — continue, the French authorities still offer no satisfactory explanation about the siege of our embassy and the restrictions placed on our embassy staff.

This new action by France indicates that this new-found savagery prevailing in the French police force — which is no doubt endorsed by certain ruling factions in that country — disregards regulations pertaining to diplomatic relations and diplomatic immunity. It shows that savage and inhuman acts have become the modus operandi of the French police and security officers with regard to foreign diplomats in that country. Naturally, such courses of action are not acceptable to us under any circumstances. [passage omitted]

In connection with France's recent actions, the Foreign Ministry spokesman stressed: If this situation is not resolved, the Foreign Ministry of the Islamic Republic of Iran will exercise its right to invoke the first part of Item 2, Article 47, of the Vienna Convention, on retaliation.

Meanwhile, Foreign Minister Velayati made the following comment in an interview [date and place not specified]: The existing problems between Iran and France stem from the power struggle among political parties in France, each of which holds a portion of power in that country. [passage omitted]

In any case, as it has shown so far, the Islamic Republic of Iran will stand up decisively to such evil deeds and will not permit our country's diplomats to be insulted in this fashion.

France will be shown by our actions that such policies will result in nothing but loss and damage for that country.

France 'Hasty' in Accusing Iran of Attack on Ship

LD141228 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
1059 GMT 14 Jul 87

[Station commentary entitled: "The Attack on the French Container Ship in the Persian Gulf"]

[Text] A French container ship was attacked in the Persian Gulf yesterday. The Iraqi regime announced that it had attacked a zone where ships anchor. Stating that the entire ship's crew was safe and that the vessel is in port on the Bahrain coast, the French captain reported: Two patrol boats attacked us in the middle of the night with RPG-7 missiles and heavy machinegun fire for 20-25 minutes.

Despite the fact that the captain refused to name the country which launched the attack, it is reported that the French Government, in a swift response, has accused Iran of being responsible. A statement issued by the French Government says that it will exercise all its rights in this connection. The Iraqi regime yesterday claimed it had attacked a point north of the Persian Gulf where oil tankers wait. Although no independent sources have yet confirmed the report of the attack, political sources believe that, considering the numerous mistakes made by Iraqi pilots in hitting the wrong targets — the last being the U.S. frigate *Stark* — the possibility exists that the French Government may have been rather hasty in pointing an accusing finger at Iran.

Moreover, from contacts with informed sources, it transpires that Iran will continue to exercise its long-standing policy as long as the Iraqi regime continues attacking oil tankers and merchant vessels. Nevertheless, the same sources emphasized that the main solution for ending such policies and eventually restoring peace to the shipping lanes in the Gulf is for the Iraqi regime to refrain from attacking merchant vessels.

These sources actually refer to the peace which ruled the Persian Gulf waters for more than a month following the attack by the Iraqi planes on the U.S. frigate *Stark*. As was stated earlier, following this attack the Iraqi regime, as ordered by the United States — which has stationed AWACS in Saudi Arabia — avoided attacking any marine targets for more than a month to ensure that ways to avoid similar incidents could be found.

It was only after the Iraqi regime resumed its attacks on marine targets on 20 June that limited tension returned to the Persian Gulf. One such side effect being the attacks on an U.S. ship owned by the Liberian Government on 9 July and on a French ship yesterday, 13 July.

These attacks on the two aforementioned ships reinforce the following prediction by the region's politico-military departments: The intention of such attacks is to escalate tension in the Persian Gulf waters to some extent immediately following the implementation of the U.S. plan to reflag Kuwaiti ships. Even now one can paint a partial picture of the situation in the future; one can guess that the most harm will be suffered by countries thousands of kilometers from the Persian Gulf.

What is perfectly clear in the midst of all these developments is that the main objectives in protecting ships belonging to some of the Persian Gulf emirates by foreign governments are diametrically opposed to the apparent and alleged objectives.

These points having been noted, it must be reiterated that the only way to restore peace and security in the Persian Gulf waters, as well as provide safety for commercial shipping lanes vis-a-vis the imposed war, is for the Iraqi regime to avoid exacerbating tension and for all foreign powers to pull out of the region.

Majlis Speaker Says U.S. Fears Lurking Danger

LD130815 Tehran IRNA in English 0750 GMT 13 Jul 87

[Text] Tehran, July 13, IRNA — Majlis Speaker Hojjat ol-Eslam 'Ali Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani said that the awe in which the imperialist powers hold the Islamic revolution of Iran was certainly not because of Iran's military arsenal but rather due to the martyrdom-seeking spirit of its people.

Hashemi-Rafsanjani, speaking to a group of cooperatives' officials of the Islamic Revolution's Guards Corps (IRGC), here Sunday noted that the U.S. Congress' vote against flying of U.S. flags over Kuwaiti tankers was neither for respecting humanity nor Islam. But, he stressed, it was rather for the fear of the danger lurking for the U.S. — a danger caused by the same martyrdom-seeking people.

The world arrogant powers and aggressors have by now realised that how dangerous it would be to get involved in a confrontation with these people, the Majlis speaker said.

In another part of his speech Hojjat ol-Eslam Hashemi-Rafsanjani remarked that no doubt there were many institutions at the service of the families of the martyrs of the revolution. But, he stressed, more services were expected to be rendered to these families.

Further Reportage on Visit of Syrian Minister

Holds Meeting With Khamene'i

LD32223 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
2030 GMT 13 Jul 87

[Text] Syrian Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar',who came to Tehran at the head of a delegation to convey a special message from Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad to the president of our country, was received this morning by President Khamene'i.

During this meeting, which lasted for more than 2 hours, the Syrian foreign minister first submitted the message from Mr Hafiz al-Asad and conveyed his warm and brotherly greetings to Mr Khamene'i. He then referred to the deep relations between Iran and Syria and briefed Mr Khamene'i on the views of the Syrian president with regard to issues of interest to both sides, as well as world and regional issues.

Emphasizing that all moves and tactics adopted by the Syrian leadership are made within the framework of the unchangeable,

deep, and extensive relations with Iran, the Syrian foreign minister stressed the principled and strategic unity between Iran and Syria.

He described the presence of foreign fleets in the Persian Gulf region as a cause for heightening tension, expanding the war, and threatening regional security. Referring to the need for unity amongprogressive countries against imperialism and Zionism, Mr Faruq al-Shar' described the principled and strategic unity between Iran and Syria as an effective factor in the struggle against imperialism and Zionism and emphasized its importance.

Mr Khamene'i, expressing his thanks for the kind message from Mr Hafiz al-Asad regarding matters of mutual interest, then referred to the good and strategic relations between the two fraternal countries. He said: Contrary to the wishes of world arrogance and despite its propaganda, our present sincere relations with Syria are very strong and in an excellent state.

Mr Khamene'i emphasized: Fortunately, our Syrian brothers have always proved they are strongly committed to the expansion and deepening of relations with the Islamic Republic of Iran, a position resented by colonialism and world imperialism.

The president of our country, referring to the adventurist moves of Kuwait and the presence of foreign fleets in the Persian Gulf, asserted: The conspiracy of expanding the war and dragging it into the Persian Gulf is a new development which Kuwait has been influential in bringing about by its incorrect policies. Undoubtedly, the first country that will burn in this fire and the first side to receive a blow will be Kuwait itself. The blow delivered at Kuwait will have a determining effect upon the political future of that country.

In another part of his speech, Mr Khamene'i emphasized the need for the unity of the Muslim and progressive countries in confronting Zionism. He praised the critical and valuable role of the believing Lebanese brothers in Lebanon, who play a very important role in neutralizing the regional moves of the regime occupying Jerusalem. As a result of their faith and conviction about struggle on the path of God, these faithful brothers perform amazing operations against the Israeli usurpers without any fear of death; this is truly wonderful. They must be continuously and decisively supported.

Calls Talks 'Positive'

JN131522 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1450 GMT 13 Jul 87

[Excerpt] Tehran, 13 Jul (SANA) — This afternoon Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar' delivered a letter from President Hafiz al-Asad to President 'Ali Khamene'i of the Islamic Republic of Iran. He then received a reply letter. The two discussed regional developments and other matters of mutual interest.

Present at the meeting were Iran's Foreign Minister Dr 'Ali Akbar Velayati; Ahmad Zayno, Syrian charge d'affaires in Tehran; and Muhammad Hasan Akhtari, Iran's ambassador in Damascus.

In a predeparture statement, Al-Shar' described his Tehran visit and talks with Iranian officials as positive and fruitful. He embasized the importance of President Khamene'i's reply letter to President al-Asad in reducing tension in the Gulf and the repercussions of such developments on the security of the area and stability of its peoples. [passage omitted]

Commander Says Iraqi Dissidents Supporting Forces

LD131917 Tehran IRNA in English 1900 GMT 13 Jul 87

[Text] Tehran, July 13, IRNA — Commander of Ramadan military headquarters said here today that Iran's Muslim combatants are not fighting the Iraqi soldiers solely along the border lines but that they are thrusting into the Iraqi territory getting voluntary help from dissident Iraqis in northern Iraq.

He said Muslim soldiers have now infiltrated new areas in Iraq and enlisted popular support for their fighting with the ruling regime in that country.

The Iranian commander who was speaking at a second meeting of the commanders of Iraqi militia troops under the command of the Supreme Assembly of the Islamic Revolution in Iraq (SAIRI) said the assembly deems it its duty to defend the oppressed masses in Iraq who are under the tyrannical rule of the Baghdad regime. He said also that the assembly observes the war as having been the result of needlessly induced hostilities between Iranians and Iraqis and that therefore it is as much imposed on one side as it is on the other.

In a resolution at the conclusion of the session, the participants condemned the United States for deciding to fly U.S. flags on Kuwaiti ships, and elsewhere renewed their oath of allegiance to Imam Khomeyni as "leader of Muslim world".

SAIRI commanders also called on Iraqi emgires in Iran to enroll in Imam Hoseyn battalions and give back up support to other Iranian and Iraqi troops fighting with the ruling government in Iraq.

SAIRI Commanders on Increasing Guerrilla Warfare

LD121215 Tehran IRNA in English 1208 GMT 12 Jul 87

[Text] Tehran, July 12, IRNA — Commanders of the military branch of the Supreme Assembly of the Islamic Revolution of Iraq (SAIRI) held a session here Sunday to discuss ways of stepping up guerrilla warfare against the Iraqi Ba'thist regime. Current developments in the Persian Gulf were also reviewed during the session.

The SAIRI military commanders deliberated plans to protect the oppressed Iraqi Kurds from the Ba'thist regime's savage chemical bombings and levelling to ground of northern Iraqi towns.

The commanders of "Badr" Division 9 said that Iraqi Mojahedin are determined to continue their devastating blows on the badly-beaten Iraqi troops till final victory.

SAIRI head Hojjat ol-Eslam Muhammad Baqir Hakim, lauding the Iraqi Mojahedin for their acts of bravery on the battlefronts, emphasized on the need to maintain unity among the combatant groups.

The enemies of the Islamic revolution whose efforts to overcome the Muslim forces have been frustrated were conspiring to spread the war into the Persian Gulf, remarked Hoj. Hakim.

Hakim felt confident that Muslim forces would thwart plots of the U.S. and reactionary heads of Persian Gulf states by scoring new victories on the battlefields of the Iraqi-imposed war.

PUK Peshmerga Kidnap 3 Filipino Engineers

LD112035 Tehran IRNA in English 1842 GMT 11 Jul 87

[Text] Bakhtaran, July 11, IRNA — Three Filipino engineers were taken captive by Peshmergas of Iraq's Patriotic Union of Kurdistan (PUK) in operations in Parah Parah village of Zour [placename as received] town on 4 July, according to a PUK spokesman.

The spokesman has also said that families of the engineers and representatives of the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) can get information on the conditions of the captives through PUK representatives in Europe, Damascus, and Tehran.

The three Filipino engineers will only be released in return for the freedom of two innocent teenagers from Al-Sulaymaniyah, who the spokesman said have been imprisoned by the Iraqi regime for two years on vague charges of intimacy with Kurdish Peshmergas.

Bagdhad regime has to-date delivered bodies of 74 teenagers to their families but no information is yet available on the fate of 338 others.

Spokesman Corrects Figures

LD121831 Tehran IRNA in English 1735 GMT 12 Jul 87

[Text] Tehran, July 12, IRNA — Militia troops of Patriotic Union of Kurdestan (PUK) in Iraq demanded release of 228 Kurdish youngsters in exchange for three Filipinos whom they kidnapped in the village of Parah Parah near the Iraqi township of Zour July 4.

The group of young Kurds were arrested by the Baghdad Government two years ago on vague charges of suspicious intimacy with members of the Patriotic Union of Kurdestan which advocates armed struggle against the ruling government in Iraq.

The Iraqi Government executed 72 of the group and turned over their bodies to their relatives sometime ago but nothing is known of the condition of the remaining 228.

IRNA's Saturday July 11 dispatch number 025 quoted the PUK as saying that the kidnapped Filipinos would be released in exchange for (only) two young Kurds now detained by the Baghdad Government. Elsewhere it put the number of the executed Kurds at 74 instead of 72.

A PUK spokesman gave correct figures to sources in Tehran Sunday.

New Islamic University To Be Established in Qom

NC130730 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 13 Jul 87

[Text] Our correspondent reports that the Supreme Council of Cultural Revolution has approved the constitution of the Islamic Sciences University [Jami'at al-'Ulum al-Islamiyah] in 21 articles and 3 addenda. According to this constitution, the headquarters of this nonprofit university will be the holy city of Qom. It is being established to train scholars and researchers committed to Islam in order to expand and promote Islam and spread the life-giving teachings of the holy Koran throughout the world. Students from throughout the world will be accepted by the university and will be able to obtain associate, bachelors, masters, and doctoral degrees.

According to the constitution, the founders' committee of the Islamic Sciences University can, if necessary, and in observance of the regulations of the Islamic Republic of Iran, open branches of the university in other Iranian cities or other countries.

Subjects to be taught at the university will be theology and humanities, such as Islamic jurisprudence, Islamic tenets, interpretation of Koranic verses and sayings attributed to the Prophet, philosophy, religion, beliefs and ideologies, psychiatry, sociology, law, economics, history, and other sciences.

Iraqi Mujahidin Kill Ba'th Party Agent, Others

LD130955 Tehran IRNA in English 0915 GMT 13 Jul 87

[Text] Tehran, July 13, IRNA — An active agent of the Iraqi Ba'th party who was also in charge of night patrols in the capital city of Baghdad, was killed in a guerrilla operation by Iraqi mujahidin, late June. A news bulletin of the mujahidin reporting the incident said that the mujahidin, after surrounding the residence of Muhammad Khalil Muhammad, set ablaze his car by light arms and hand grenade while he was leaving his house.

In another operation in Baghdad in mid June, the mujahidin killed a number of key Ba'thist figures, including Ahmad Salim, a security officer of the Ba'th party who was involved in the arrest and torture of a large number of mujahidin.

Meanwhile, the mujahidin launched a series of operations in the Maysan Province (E. Iraq), including an attack on the Ba'th party's headquarters in mid June. During the attack a senior Ba'th official, 'Abd al-Karim Furadi was killed and a number of weapons were seized by the mujahidin.

The mujahidin in an ambush in 'Ali Sharqi town in the same province, killed a Ba'th party official. Another party official and a security officer were also killed by the mujahidin in Al-Muthanna Province (S. Iraq) during the same period.

The main Ba'thists Captain Jawad Khaddam, and Jasim Muhammad had been repeatedly encouraged by the Ba'th party for their hostile attitude towards mujahidin.

New Naval Units To Combat Persian Gulf Smugglers

LD140726 Tehran IRNA in English 0715 GMT 14 Jul 87

[Text] Bandar-e 'Abbas, Hormozgan Prov., July 14, IRNA — Commander of the Islamic Revolution's Committees (IRC) Hojjat ol-Eslam Serajeddin Musavi currently visiting this southern province announced Monday that IRC will shortly set up naval units to cover the Persian Gulf and the Sea of Oman against smugglers.

Hojjat ol-Eslam Musavi after inspecting Qeshm and Larak islands checked the possibility of expanding IRC naval activities in these regions. The IRC commander said that naval units will be stationed at Kish Island and Bandar-e Lengeh in the near future.

Combat Operation in War With Iraq Continue

2,000 Iraqis Killed in 'Nasr-4'

LD131709 Tehran IRNA in English 1650 GMT 13 Jul 87

[Text] Bakhtaran, July 13, IRNA — Commander of Iraq's Division 24, commander of Brigade 97 and political officer of this brigade, as well as a group of other officers of Division 24 are among the Iraqi officers killed during "Nasr-4" operations, launched June 21 in northeastern Iraq.

Announcing the above here today a commander of Ramadan Headquarters of the Irregulars of the Islamic Revolution's Guards Corps (IRGC) said that so far more than 2,000 Iraqi troops have been killed and some 5,000 others wounded in the course of the operations. A group of commanders of Iraq's light battalions and companies have also been identified among the dead, he added.

The commander quoted the latest reports reaching him from Iraq as saying that Qal'at Dizah town has been turned into a military town and that most of its inhabitants have abandoned it.

Communique No 2,896

LD131621 Tehran IRNA in English 1553 GMT 13 Jul 87

[Text] Tehran, July 13, IRNA — An Iraqi warplane was shot down over the southern waters of Iran by anti-aircraft fire of Iranian naval forces around 0636 GMT Monday. There is yet no report on the fate of the plane's pilot or whereabouts of its wreckage.

Announcing the above here today, the 2896th Joint Staff communique said that the Navy released a detained oil tanker this morning from a southern Iranian port where it was taken for thorough inspection on Saturday.

The Navy coastal artillery fire hit Iraq's Al-Bakr oil platform in the northern tip of the Persian Gulf and some enemy coastal watch towers yesterday, inflicting heavy casualties and losses on the enemy troops.

Iraqi forces suffered substantial losses in men and equipment and parts of their positions were set ablaze throughout the fronts Sunday in artillery duels with Iran Muslim combatants which raged somewhat more heavily in the Majnun Islands. The Iranian forces also continued destroying enemy mine fields all over the fronts.

An Iraqi patrol convoy suffered heavy casualties and was forced to flee in Panjwin theater, northwestern fronts, by Iranian artillery fire Sunday.

In the Western and southern fronts Sunday, the artillery fire of Iranian Muslim combatants checked reconnaissance flights of Iraqi helicopters in Sumar, enemy engineering operations in Qasr-e Shirin and movement of enemy motorized columns in Khawr al-Hawizah and Zobaydeh.

Muslim forces of Iran shelled Iraqi motorized and armoured units in Nahr 'Anbar, southern fronts, yesterday, inflicting heavy losses on them and halting their operations, the communique concluded.

Clashes in Majnun Islands

LD131755 Tehran IRNA in English 1744 GMT 13 Jul 87

[Text] Tehran, July 13, IRNA — Muslim combatants of Iran killed 150 Iraqi forces in western Majnun Islands Sunday night. Four gunboats, and a 107 mm missile-launcher of the Iraqi troops were destroyed and a munitions depot, a tank and some vehicles as well as communication equipment of the enemy were set afire.

Meanwhile, armoured and supply columns of the Ba'thist forces were subjected to heavy Iranian fire on Nashveh road, the other side of southern Majnun Island and destroyed. The Iraqi columns were on their way to provide support for Iraq's 6th Corps forces, according to reports reaching here from Ahvaz, Khuzestan Province. More than ten Iraqi tanks, personnel carriers and supply equipments were set ablaze.

Scores of Iraqi troops were killed or wounded when Iranian Muslim combatants shelled several Iraqi tactical headquarters. Also over 15 bunkers and gun emplacements of the enemy in this region were destroyed.

Communique No 2,897

LD141614 Tehran IRNA in English 1552 GMT 14 Jul 87

[Text] Tehran, July 14, IRNA — One Iranian civilian was martyred and two others wounded when Iraqi warplanes bombed the town of Sardasht (West Azarbayjan Province) at noon Monday. Two houses were destroyed, according to a military communique released here Tuesday.

The 2897th communique of the Joint Staff said that coastal Iranian naval fire on Al-Bakr and Al-'Amaya platforms brought activities of Iraqi gunboats to a halt yesterday.

Iranian patrol groups carried out successful missions throughout the war fronts. All these groups returned to bases safely after inflicting casualties and damage on the enemy.

Exchange of artillery and mortar fire continued in the war fronts, being somewhat more intense in Zayd region as a result of which heavy casualties and damage were inflicted on the Ba'thist forces.

At least ten Iraqi forces were killed and five light and heavy vehicles, one heavy engineering vehicle, one fuel tanker and some munitions depots of theirs destroyed in southern fronts.

Some Iraqi soldiers were killed and wounded, ten gun-emplacements, three vehicles and one munitions depot of enemy forces destroyed by the Muslim combatants in northwestern operational regions.

Ten gun-emplacements and observation posts and a munitions depot were set afire in western fronts where a number of Iraqi troops were killed or wounded.

Iran's gendarmerie forces killed some Iraqi troops pounding ten gun-emplacements and observation posts in southern fronts Monday.

In Chazabeh region, movements of Iraqi vehicles were either checked or shelled by the Muslim combatants. In southern Al-Basra operational region, an Iraqi armoured column sustained damage when it was subjected to heavy fire of the Muslim combatants.

Soldiers Recapture Two Border Posts Held by Indians

BK140901 Rawalpindi HAIDER in Urdu 5 Jul 87 p 1

[By special correspondent]

[Text] Rawalpindi — It is understood that the other day, the Pakistani Armed Forces liberated the two posts in the Siachen Glacier area that were illegally occupied by Indian forces in a suprise attack a few days ago. It has been reported that during the Pakistani Armed Forces' operation to recapture these two posts, one soldier was martyred and several others wounded. According to these sources, the Indian forces also suffered casualites. However, the exact number of those killed could not be learned.

Commerce Secretary Explains 1987-90 Trade Policy

BK111051 Islamabad THE MUSLIM in English 1 Jul 87 pp 1, 8

[Text] Islamabad, June 30 — The commerce secretary, R.A. Akhund, said here today that the country's exports in dollar terms during the first 10 months had increased by 18.3 per cent, while in 1985-86 an increase of 23.2 per cent was registered.

At a press briefing on the new trade policy for 1987-90, he said the increase in exports was based on the depressed level of 1984-85 when exports fell by 10 per cent. The main items contributing to this growth, he said, were raw cotton, rice, textiles, clothing and accessories, towels, hosiery, synthetic textiles, carpets, leather and its products and guar and its products.

He said that this growth was accomplished by increased quantum rather than price, adding that export unit price of a number of items declined.

Replying to a question the commerce secretary said that private sector had been allowed export of Basmati rice under brand name, to be exported in packets of one to 2.5 kilogram.

He said private sector exporters would obtain rice from the Rice Export Corporation of Pakistan (RECP) at its export rates. However, private sector exporters could use their own stock after depositing RECP's bulk price with the RECP.

Explaining government's measures to maintain quality control for the rice, Mr. Akhund said that exporting consignments would be subject to RECP's inspection procedures and without payment of export duties. The RECP will also issue certification of quality control, he added.

Explaining the policy on cotton export the commerce secretary said that private sector would be allowed to export cotton purchased from Cotton Export Corporation, which would purchase all available surplus cotton ensuring that no purchase was made below the export price.

He said the minimum export price for cotton would be worked out and announced daily by a committee consisting of representatives of State Bank of Pakistan, Cotton Export Corporation (CEC) and Karachi Cotton Association (KCA)

He said that export of this commodity both in the private and the public sector would be allowed only against registered contracts. In this connection the State Bank would register all exports contracts and send to the Ministry of Commerce a daily list of contracts along with quantity and the price.

He said the CEC would sell the cotton to the private exporters at the minimum export price less agreed commission-profit and incidentals as worked out by the CEC. If the CEC suffered losses the government will compensate it in the form of subsidy, he remarked.

The Commerce Secretary said the Government had also adopted a number of measures to ensure availability of cotton yarn to the ancillary industries.

The government, he said, had imposed a monthly export quota of 15 million kilogram, effective from the first of July this year for six months. The quota restriction would be reviewed and decision taken accordingly in September, he remarked.

He said that an export duty of Rs. 5 per kilogram would be charged from July 1 on all exports consignments of cotton yarn.

He said that the government had also approved several measures for the revival and strengthening of powerloom sector. In this connection a cooperative society would be set up for bulk purchase of yarn and its distribution to the powerloom units at a reasonable price. Funds for the society would be provided by the government through federal bank for cooperatives.

He said the Federal Ministry of Industries, through the Government of Punjab would assist in grouping together the powerloom units. Only modern powerloom units would be allowed to be established in the tax-free industrial area.

He said the government would also help modernise the powerloom sector by providing a line of credit with a mandatory target of Rs. 25 crore. Under this credit purchase of domestically produced powerloom units would be allowed at a mark up of three per cent.

The commerce secretary said that powerloom units would be eligible for the new commerce quota for export of cloth including grey cloth.

The nationalised banks, he said, would accept leases of 30 years and above in the recognised industrial aspects as collateral for advancing loans to the powerloom units. He said that representatives of the Powerlooms Association would be sent abroad at government expense to explore foreign markets in the non-quota countries for export of their products.

Replying to a question regarding the balance of trade through barter on the import of petroleum products Commerce Secretary R A. Akhund said that almost one hundred per cent import of petroleum products came from Kuwait. Explaining he said that Kuwait on the other hand imported everything excepting petrol.

In this context, the commerce secretary said that there would be no problem for Kuwait to trade with Pakistan on barter basis.

The Federal Secretary Commerce said the government had removed as many as 146 items from the restricted or banned list of importable items in the new trade policy as part of its measures to stem the incidence of smuggling.

Briefing newsmen on the new trade policy, he said items like tyres were being smuggled in large quantities and the government was suffering huge losses in the form of non-availability of duty.

About the closure of Bara markets, he said the Federal Government was seeking the cooperation of provincial governments in this connection. He said the government did not want to aggravate this problem by taking any radical measure.

The Secretary, Commerce, said 136 items had been removed from banned list while 10 others from the restricted items list. These items include plastic goods and raw material, tyres, close circuit cameras, ambulances, food grinders etc.

The Federal Secretary, Commerce, said that government would make every effort to reduce adverse balance of payments and as a first step barter trade agreements would be reached with countries exporting tea to Pakistan.

He said that the Minister for Commerce, Planning and Development, Dr. Mahbubul Haq, had already talked to the ambassadors of tea exporting countries in Pakistan. He said 70 per cent of tea would be imported in return for export of goods, including engineering goods, from Pakistan. The remaining consignments would be imported in free market.

He said this arrangement had been made on experimental basis and, if successful, similar accords would be reached with the seven leading countries with whom Pakistan had a trade deficit.

Diplomatic Contacts With India Reportedly Intensify

BK131616 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 13 Jul 87

[Text] An Indian High Commission spokesman in Colombo said that diplomatic contacts between India and Sri Lanka have intensified after the high commissioner delivered the prime minister's message to Mr Jayewardene early this month. He stressed that India has not suggested any new ideas and has instead asked the Sri Lankan Government to come up with fresh proposals to solve the tragic and complex problem.

The spokesman regretted reports in a section of Sri Lankan press which made insinuations about the Indian relief supplies.

Premadasa Speaks Out Against Support of Terrorists

BK131154 Colombo International Service in English 1045 GMT 13 Jul 87

[Excerpt] Prime Minister R. Premadasa has said that Sri Lanka and Britain enjoy an abiding friendship. There are few misguided Sri Lankan expatriates in Britain who are out to destroy the good relations between the two countries. The prime minister was speaking at a reception hosted by the Sri Lanka high commissioner in London yesterday.

Mr Premadasa pointed out that people of various races and religions lived in Sri Lanka in perfect harmony until terrorism raised its ugly head. He stressed that terrorism has become a global menace and those who cherish democratic ideals should refrain from supporting, sheltering, and encouraging terrorists. Mr Premadasa proposed as the first step a curb on arms sales to the terrorists by developed countries as small countries, like Sri Lanka, find it difficult to combat terrorism without international assistance. The prime minister said a fund should established for antiterrorist activities.

Mr Premadasa spoke at length on Sri Lanka's achievements in diverse fields and made particular reference to the ongoing housing program. [passage omitted]

TULF Statement Denounces Plans for By-Elections

BK131231 Delhi THE HINDU in English 28 Jun 87 p 2

[Text] Madras, June 27 — The TULF today called upon the Tamils of the Northern and Eastern Provinces of Sri Lanka "to take no part whatever" in the parliamentary by-elections and thus "refrain from lending any credibility to this deception sought to be practised" by the Sri Lankan Government. Colombo must desist from pursuing this "nefarious action" which could only thwart the efforts of the Government of India to resolve the ethnic problem.

The TULF Politburo, which met here today to consider the matter, issued a strongly-worded statement denouncing the move. It said what the people of the Northern and Eastern Provinces needed was redemption from the horrendous situation of death and devastation in which they were now engulfed and an immediate but permanent solution to their plight. It warned Colombo that persistence with this "ill-motivated" move would only result in greater violence and more suffering for the Tamils.

The Government, by rushing through the Sixth Amendment to the Constitution in August, 1983, after the pogrom against the Tamils, dealt a fatal blow to the democratic participation of the Tamil people in Parliament and in local institutions, it said.

The TULF, which had won 18 out of 19 seats in elections to Parliament and had also come out victorious in the District Development Councils and also urban and municipal Councils in all the districts in the North and East barring Amparai, was shut out of all these institutions. (The Sixth Amendment demanded that all MPs disavow separatism).

Since 1983 about four lakhs of Tamils from the two provinces had fled the island, while another four lakhs of them had been displaced from their houses. They now lived in refugee camps or houses of friends and relatives in comparatively safer areas, far away from their residences. In some districts such as Trincomalee, nearly two-thirds of the Tamil population had been driven out by the persistent atrocities of the Armed Forces. In constituencies like Trincomalee and Avuniya, the electoral registers had been systematically doctored from 1983 to diminish the Tamil vote and artificially inflate the Sinhala vote. People from the North and East were in the grip of terror from the Armed Forces, whose 150 camps dotted the two provinces, TULF said.

The proposal to hold polls to the local bodies and the parliamentary by-elections was nothing but a "wicked and cynical move by the Government, desperately endeavouring to deceive the world that conditions prevail for the functioning of the democratic forces. The pretence of holding elections under these circumstances will be an unmitigated fraud and a travesty of democracy," the statement said.

"The hastily adopted legislation constituting Pradeshiya Sabhas and the attempt to rush through elections to these bodies is clearly calculated to strike at the root of the Government's own proposals for a political solution. This is also a diabolical move to pre-empt the legitimate demand of all Opposition parties for holding the long-overdue elections to Parliament," the statement added.